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CITY NEWS

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Oldest black university target of KKK

By Gloria Dulao-Wilson
Staff Writer

Lincoln University, the oldest historically black institution in Oxford, Pennsylvania, was evacuated after three generators exploded on campus. Students suspect KKK sabotage.

The 146-year-old school was evacuated at 4:00 a.m. last Wednesday, after three electric generators exploded. Ostensibly, the result of snow storms and temperatures that ranged in low single digits could have caused the mishap. But, in light of the threatening letters the school have received touting white supremacy, there's room for speculation.

Generators in Lorraine Hansbury Hall — the freshmen girls dorm, the freshmen men's dorm, and the Student Union building practically crippling the campus, knocking out electricity, lights, heat, as well as spoiling all the food. The administration, concerned for the health and safety of the students, called for the evacuation, stating campus would reopen

... the KKK, headquartered three miles away in Rising Sun, Maryland, threatened to come on the campus January 24th, and lynch students and faculty on campus.

once the generators were repaired or replaced. This was not happy news to students who had just returned for the beginning of the second semester.

Most students, however, believe the evacuation was a ruse to get the students off campus after the KKK headquarters three miles away in Rising Sun, Maryland, threatened to come on the campus January 24th and lynch students and faculty on the campus. In fact, one student, who asked not to be identified, said the generators are located in three different parts of the campus, making it impossible for their failure to be coincidental.

A campus security guard alleged the KKK tried to enter the campus Christmas Eve, but were prevented from doing so. The university, with such alumni as Thurgood Marshall, Kwame Nkrumah and Langston Hughes — has been receiving threats from the KKK since its inception. But they were never able to carry them out. In the Black power era of the sixties faculty and students patrolled the periphery with guns as the KKK burned crosses less than one mile from the campus. Obviously in the year 2000 they are continuing the same insane threats.

Indeed, there is concern that they may have actually been able to carry out part of their threat by infiltrating the campus power center, according to students. Alumni speculate the evacuation was a safety measure to prevent any confrontation between the KKK and the students but feels the administration should prepare students adequately for these threats rather than running away from them. "Don't take an ostrich approach, but understand that racism will never go away. Lincoln comes from a long line of heroes and heroines who have faced down the Klan, and in the year 2000 were prepared to do the same."

Six Newark cops indicted



The Newark Police Department recently promoted 56 officers to various ranks and titles while six fellow officers were criminally demoted after being indicted by the Essex County Prosecutor's Office for the alleged beating of an unarmed prisoner last year.

NEWARK — The Newark Police Department and Internal Affairs Bureau recently joined with the Essex County Prosecutor's Office to hand down indictments to three Newark Police Officers and three former Police Officers in the alleged beating of an unarmed prisoner last year.

The support and trust of our community in building upon a 48 percent reduction in crime is of the utmost importance to the Newark Police Department," said Newark Police Director Joseph J. Santiago. "This indictment sends a message that action will be taken against offi-

cers who employ illegal force as well as officers who witness such behavior and take no action."

The allegations came just after a recent promotion of 56 officers to the Newark Police Department. The department promoted John Esposito Deputy Chief along with three new captains, 22 lieutenants and 36 sergeants at a ceremony earlier this month held in the City Hall Council Chambers.

According to Santiago, hiring has increased from 1,100 police officers 18 years ago to 1,500 on its current roster. The new sergeants and lieutenants will become field leaders and super-

visors designated to heighten the improved services.

"We can call on you to do even more for the city of Newark, more responsibility, more challenges," said Mayor Sharpe James, who presided over the ceremony. James indicated that crime has been reduced by nearly 50 percent in Newark. Accidental firearms fatalities in New Jersey have declined by 83 percent since 1987, according to the National Safety Council. The safety council tracks unintentional injury deaths due to a variety of causes including motor vehicle accidents, falls, drowning, fires,

choking, and poisoning. The episode leading to the indictments took place on June 14, 1999 at approximately 9:00 p.m. in the North District police station. Officers in the precinct received a call that a man had been seen dragging a boy into some bushes at Lincoln and Arlington Avenues, near the police precinct.

Changes made in the report alleged that Emmanuel Aides, arrested in connection with the sexual assault of a 10-year-old boy, had to be treated in the hospital for a broken nose, a swollen

continued from A8

Lawmakers push for KKK to name highway stretch after Rosa Parks

By Christopher Clark

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (AP) — In a turnaround that ticks civil rights leaders, a Missouri lawmaker has proposed naming a Ku Klux Klan-sponsored stretch of highway after civil rights pioneer Rosa Parks.

State Sen. Bill Clay Jr., embarrassed by the Klan's participation in the state Adopt-A-Highway litter control program, offered the legislation Thursday.

"To have the Klan clean up a



Rosa Parks

section of highway named to honor the woman who started the modern civil rights movement — I love it," Clay said.

Parks' refusal to yield her seat on a Montgomery, Ala., bus in 1955 was a turning point in the civil rights movement.

The Klan won the right to participate in the cleanup program last fall after years of fighting the Department of Transportation in court. A federal appeals court ruled in November that the state cannot bar the Klan from participating.

The Klan's national director, Thomas Robb, did not return a call seeking comment. Michael A. Cuffley, who led the Klan's legal fight to adopt the road and is wanted on felony burglary charges in St. Louis County, could not be reached for comment.

Signs on a portion of Interstate 55 south of downtown

"To have the Klan clean up a section of highway named to honor the woman who started the modern civil rights movement — I love it!" — Missouri State Senator Bill Clay said.

St. Louis that read, "Next mile adopted by Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Realm of Missouri," were stolen a day after they were erected.

They have not been replaced. Jeff Briggs, a spokesman for the Transportation Department, said no Klan members are known to have gone to the site to clean it up.

Groups are required to collect litter at least four times a year.

On Friday, transportation officials sent a letter to Cuffley, giving the group until Feb. 14 to make arrangements to pick up supplies and training videos or face being dropped from the program.

Clay's bill, which now heads to a Senate committee for discussion, has bipartisan support. Previous highway name changes in Missouri, including those for St. Louis Cardinals home run king Mark McGwire and Kansas City Royals Hall of Famer George Brett, breezed through the Legislature.

New Jersey Senate Campaign Race 2000

Jon Corzine receives Democratic nomination

By Chris Sykes
Staff Writer

NEWARK — Senate candidate Jon Corzine met with representatives from a variety of media organizations and outlets recently to explore issues that affect urban New Jersey.

In order to illustrate just why it is in the best interests of urban New Jersey, including blacks and other minority voters, to cast their ballots on Corzine's behalf, one of his campaign aides told an amusing anecdote about him. It seems he — Corzine — is a politician on the campaign trail would tailor his remarks to fit the race, economic background and political leanings of his audience.

However, Corzine did not do that. Instead, according to the aide, he stuck to his guns and told that audience how he "real-



Senate candidate Jon Corzine talks to voters after accepting the Essex County Democratic Party nomination at the Robert Trust Hotel as Newark Mayor Sharpe James.

ly" feels about the issues, this campaign and the country in general.

"I believe the death penalty is the highest form of racial profiling in the country. I don't believe in quotas, but we need to make the benefits of being an American universally available to every American," he said. "I believe in community. I don't accept the divisions between urban and suburban, black and white, Latino and Asian, North

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Florio challenges Corzine to a debate

Photo by Herb Glenn



Governor Jim Florio

NEW BRUNSWICK — Former Governor Jim Florio, who is currently a candidate for the U.S. Senate, recently challenged his opponent, Jon Corzine, to a debate on the issues of this campaign. However, the irony of the situation is Florio's campaign may be outpacing some challenges itself.

Two members of his campaign have resigned under what some Corzine supporters would like to think are less than perfect circumstances. But a spokesperson for the campaign said not-

ing could be further from the truth.

"A couple of people are leaving for various reasons, but in campaigns opponents like to make things seem more sinister than they are," said David Eichenbaum, a campaign consultant. "It's really not related to any shakeup."

Eichenbaum said campaign manager Beth Shipp and a member of her staff are leaving the Florio campaign. He said Shipp is leaving for personal reasons and the staffer is leaving to attend law school.

"They're leaving for reasons that are pretty valid," he said. "We're in transition. We're not looking for anybody to replace her at the moment, but we will hire somebody to replace her."

Whether or not the suspensions surrounding the Corzine campaign are valid or not, the campaign will continue and a challenge to debate has been issued.

"I offer this challenge to Mr. Corzine: let's get together and debate the issues," Florio said. "Voters deserve a campaign based on issues, ideas and people — not bank accounts."

Florio spoke with the group about proposals he has outlined recently at events throughout New Jersey. That included a patients' and providers' bill of

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Community Calendar

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3

BERKELEY HEIGHTS - The Volunteer Guild of RUMMEL'S Specialized Hospital of Union County will hold a Valentine's Day Jewelry Sale presented by Essex Free Jewelry from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, call (908) 771-5847.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4

NEWARK - Attend the 6th Public Hearing of Citizens regarding American Prisons from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Essex County College. Free Admission. For more information, call (973) 297-1275.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5

NEWARK - A poetry reading will be held 11 a.m. at the Newark Public Library featuring sensational poets, in the Centennial Hall. For more information, call 973-733-7735.

NORTH PLAINFIELD - The North Plainfield Woman's Club will hold their regular Book Sale at the library from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, call (908) 755-7909.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6

NEWARK - An exhibition and opening reception: African-American History Month will be held at 6:30 p.m. at the Newark Public Library. For more information, call (973) 733-7735.

PLAINFIELD - In celebration of Black History Month the Drake House Museum will host an exhibit of selected works of talented local artist, Mel Holston. The opening reception will be from 2 to 4 p.m. For more information, call (908) 755-5831.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7

CRANFORD - Union County College will offer "Principles of Real Estate" and "Real Estate Brokerage License" as part of the Real Estate License and Certification Preparation program through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. For more information, call (908) 709-7501.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

SUMMIT - Spence-Chapin Adoption Resource (ARC) Workshop Program on "Openness in Adoption" will be held from 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. at Christ Church. For more information, call (212) 380-0237.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10

NEWARK - Bro. Eric Ture Muhammad, Founder of The Black African Holocaust Council presents "The African Slave History of New Jersey, Pt. 1," at 7:00 p.m. The WISOMMM Mansion. Free Admission. For more information, call (973) 297-1275 or (718) 596-7569.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12

JERSEY CITY - NJ City University will offer a computer course "Introduction to the PC/Windows 95" from 12:40 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. on

Saturdays through February 26. For more information, call (201) 200-3089.

ISELIN - The Community Oriented Firefighters for Eminent Equality holds an annual award dinner and dance as a fundraiser from 8 p.m. to 2:30 a.m. For more information, call (908) 755-5562.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15

NEW BRUNSWICK - A free public seminar on estate and federal income tax will be held from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the NJ Law Center. For more information, call (1800) FREE-LAW.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17

NEWARK - Bro. Eric Ture Muhammad, Founder of The Black African Holocaust Council presents "The African Slave History of New Jersey, Pt. 2," at 7:00 p.m. The WISOMMM Mansion. Free Admission. For more information, call (973) 297-1275 or (718) 596-7569.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

NEW BRUNSWICK - Two family law attorneys will examine divorce law in a free public seminar titled, "What Everyone Should Know About Child Custody, Child Support and Grandparents Rights." The seminar will be held from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the NJ Law Center (off Ryders Lane). For more information call (1800) FREE-LAW.

SUNDAY - MARCH 5

ATLANTIC CITY - Kids Fair 2000, a tradeshow just for kids will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Atlantic City Convention Center. For more information, call (1800) 282-7395.

NEW BRUNSWICK - NJ State Bar Foundation presents a free seminar for the public on "Discrimination in the Workplace" from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the NJ Law Center (off Ryders Lane). For more information call (1800) FREE-LAW.

SATURDAY, MARCH 25

ORANGE - Focuses on lesson plan development and structure using the arts will be presented from 8:15 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Orange High School by theater artist Sean Layne and movement artist Eric Johnson. For more information, call Irene Toone at (973) 353-6020.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The National Trust for Historic Preservation Week will be celebrated May 14th through May 20th. For more information, call (202) 598-6141.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17

ORANGE - Workshops focusing on lesson plan development and structure using the arts will be presented from 8:15 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Orange High School by theater artist Sean Layne and movement artist Eric Johnson. For more information, call Irene Toone at (973) 353-6020.

Adubato talked with Montclair author Valerie Wilson Wesley



Valerie Wilson Wesley, a Montclair resident known for her best-selling "Tamara Hayle" mystery series, joined Emmy Award-winning anchor Steve Adubato on "On-on-One." The "Tamara Hayle" series is based on an African-American single parent who is a private investigator in Newark. On the program, Wesley talked about her latest book, "Ain't Nobody's Business if I Do."

Kessler's Partners for People brings athletes and fans together



John Barner, left, of Newark chats with New Jersey Nets basketball player Jim McIlvaine at the Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation in West Orange. McIlvaine signed autographs and presented team hats on behalf of the Nets as part of Kessler's "Players for People" program, which brings professional athletes to Kessler facilities to visit with patients.

Black History Moments



Colin L. Powell
1937.

General Colin L. Powell (Ret.) gained prominent status as the first black National Security Advisor when he was appointed chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff during the George Bush Administration.

Powell grew up in New York City where he was educated at City University of New York. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree in 1958.

Powell later studied at George Washington University, earning his Master of Business Administration in 1971. He later attended the National War College.

Powell became a very visible figure during the Persian Gulf War and as one of the few well-known black Republicans.

Powell was also considered as a presidential nominee during the 1990s before he declined the prospect.

de Koninck appointed fellow at Thomas Edison State College



Jessica de Koninck appointed Fellow with the John S. Watson Institute for Public Policy at Thomas Edison State College. In her role, de Koninck is responsible for consulting on matters relating to public education and local government for the New Jersey Urban Mayors Association, the city of Trenton and other organizations.

South Brunswick's Woods earns Congressman Holt Scholarship



From left, Gene McNary, the government relations consultant at the Citicore Institute, U.S. Congressman Rush Holt, and John Wille, the institute's executive director, were on hand at to present Sherri Woods, center, with the Congressman Holt/Lincoln Technical Institut-Citcore Institute Scholarship recently. Woods attends South Brunswick High School.

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Black quotes to live by...



"Create, and be true to yourself, and depend only on your own good taste."

Duke Ellington US bandleader, songwriter (1899-1974)

taken from "Music is My Mistress," 1973

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NATIONAL BRIEFS

MANDELA MOVES PEACE TALKS IN BURUNDI BACK TO CENTER STAGE

KIGALI (UPI) — As promised, Nelson Mandela has moved Burundi's embattled peace process back to center stage. Making his debut as the new mediator, Mandela recently told Burundian delegates in the northern Tanzanian resort town of Arusha. "Please join the modern world."

Edging his predecessor, Julius Nyerere, Mandela asked the Burundians: "Why do you allow yourselves to be regarded as leaders without talent, leaders without vision?" The former South African president has promised to try and give the long-running peace talks a higher profile, issuing invitations to leaders like President Bill Clinton and French President Jacques Chirac to attend the next round of discussions in mid-February. Mandela's initial efforts won him a standing ovation from his audience. But reports from inside Burundi suggest things may get a lot worse before they get better.

HUD 1999 HOMEOWNERSHIP RATE HITS RECORD HIGH

WASHINGTON — A record 66.9 percent of American households owned their own homes in 1999, a higher percentage than in any year in American history, Housing and Urban Development Secretary Andrew Cuomo announced today. The percentage of households owning their homes — known as the homeownership rate — has risen steadily since President Clinton took office, jumping from 64 percent in 1993 to 66.3 percent in 1998 before setting another new record in 1999. "This is the latest in a long line of remarkable economic statistics that show just how dramatically Clinton Administration policies have improved the lives of America's families," Cuomo said. "Homeownership has always been the American Dream, and now the dream is becoming a reality for more and more of our people." As a result of the rising homeownership rate and the nation's growing population, a total of 70.1 million families owned homes in 1999. There were 8.7 million more homeowners at the end of 1999 than when President Clinton took office in 1993. A total of 40 percent of the net new homeowners since 1994 are minorities — even though they account for just 24 percent of the total population. In addition to hitting another record high in African American and Hispanic homeownership rates continued growing twice as fast as the white population, but still lagged too far behind, Cuomo said. "While we've made important strides in increasing minority homeownership, the homeownership gap dividing whites from minorities remains far too wide," Cuomo said. The booming economy and low mortgage interest rates created by Clinton Administration policies have been the main factors in the growth in homeownership, Cuomo said.

AFRICA IMMIGRANTS JOINING NAACP

(NNPA) — Immigrants from Africa are increasingly becoming members of the NAACP, according to chairman Julian Bond. The longtime civil rights leader and television commentator recently delivered the keynote address, "Moving from the Margins to the Mainstream: Empowering New Immigrants in Political System," at a seminar sponsored by The African American Action Network for Peace in Arlington, Virginia. The seminar examined the recent surge of interest by African immigrants to actively participate in civil rights and political organizations. At 50 years old, the NAACP is the largest and oldest civil rights organization. It has a half-million youth and adult members throughout the United States and the world.

Philip Morris' 35K donation helps establish NNPA's Black Press Institute

PALM SPRINGS, CALIF. (NNPA) — Philip Morris Companies, Inc., long standing relationship with National Newspaper Publishers Association solidified further when the corporation gave \$35,000, in seed money for the establishment of a Black Press Institute.

It's good to have good friends — and powerful friends in high places," said NNPA President John J. Oliver, Jr., after embracing Virgil Colbert, vice-president of Miller Brewing Company's worldwide operations.

Colbert presented the check on behalf of Miller, one of PM's three subsidiaries, at a reception during the NNPA Mid-Winter Convention. Oliver presented him with a plaque as a sign of appreciation.

The Black Press Institute, conceived by Howard University journalism professor Clint Wilson II for the NNPA, will provide needed market

research on African American newspaper readership and training for black press editorial and business-side employees.

Wilson said the seed money for the institute was the realization of a longtime dream of Black Press development. The two initiatives of the Black Press Institute will be to create a black newspaper research and a Web-based vehicle to exchange articles with fellow publishers. The institute will also provide training seminars for member newspaper editorial and business staffs, and conduct up-to-date market research on the Black Press' readership.

Colbert, who reminded the audience Miller Co. is the sponsor of the Thurgood Marshall Scholarship Fund, said the gift to the NNPA illustrated "we are to the NNPA illustrated 'we are committed—have been, always will be — a good corporate citizen.'"

A longtime PM associate,

who was thanked by Colbert in his remarks, said she was glad to see the relationship with NNPA and PM reach a plateau.

"It's about partnership," said Tina Walls, newly named vice president of corporate affairs, Miller Brewing Co. "Philip Morris' commitment is a continuation of our long-standing relationship with NNPA and its member papers."

She said African Americans have a strong community but "it cannot be strong without the business and community component of the Black Press."

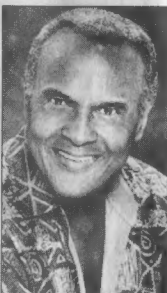
Philip Morris is a long-standing supporter of Black organizations, including the NNPA. The company, the publisher of a directory of Black organizations for many years, has sponsored many events at the association's Mid-Winter and Annual conventions, as well as its "Black Press Week" celebrations.

Last year, the corporation



NNPA President John Oliver, along with conference attendees holds \$35,000 check presented by Philip Morris for the Black Press Institute. The NNPA's Black Press Institute sponsored "Pleading Our Own Case: The Black Press in America," a six-part radio his-

Belafonte receives 'Legendary Artist Award' at Mayors Gala



Harry Belafonte

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Americans for the Arts and The United States Conference of Mayors proudly announced the winners of the 2000 Government Leadership in the Arts Awards, honoring the contributions of legends and leaders on the local, state and national level working to enrich the quality of our communities and the nation through the arts.

The awards were presented at the Mayors Arts Gala on January 27, 2000, at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Washington, D.C. Singer, actor, producer and civil rights activist, Harry Belafonte received the Legendary Artist Award for his outstanding support of the arts. "Art is the most fulfilling and most powerful of all instruments God has always

given to his children. It is rough culture and it is through art that we know each other, document where we have come from and where we are going," said Belafonte.

Harry Belafonte is both the consummate entertainer and the consummate humanitarian. Known for his mastery of the arts as a recording artist, as well as movie, Broadway and television star and producer, Belafonte has achieved equally great recognition for his advocacy activities on behalf of human rights around the world, seamlessly weaving artistic, social and political interests into one career. As an artistic career began skyrocketing with a Tony Award for "John Murray Anderson's Almanac" and a successful

recording contract with RCA Victor, he also began to strategically use his artistic talents to advocate on behalf of humanitarian efforts. A long-time friend of Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., Belafonte was the driving force that united the cultural elements behind the needs of the American civil rights movement, including the 1963 Freedom March in Washington, D.C. Appointed by President John F. Kennedy to serve as cultural advisor to the Peace Corps, he was the first member of the entertainment industry to receive this title and for the next five years he traveled to many of the world's developing countries. He soon became a powerful advocate for Africa, particularly its children. Belafonte helped create

USA for Africa and then the We Are the World concert to benefit African famine relief in 1985. In 1987, he was appointed Goodwill Ambassador for UNICEF. Today, Belafonte continues to serve as an effective advocate for both humanitarian and cultural growth will throughout the world.

Other distinguished honorees are: Mayor Vincent Cianci of Providence, Rhode Island, for local Arts Leadership; Governor Jon Ridenour of Pennsylvania, for State Arts Leadership; Congresswoman Nancy Johnson of Connecticut, for U.S. House Arts Leadership; Senator Robert Bennett of Utah, for U.S. Senate Arts Leadership; and Dr. John Brademas, who will receive a special Lifetime Achievement Award.

D.C. conference holds good and bad news for blacks

WASHINGTON, D.C. — According to Secretary of Transportation Rodney Slater, this election season holds good news and bad news for blacks and other minorities.

Slater said the good news is the Clinton-Gore Administration has led the country from record budget deficits to seven consecutive years of fiscal improvement and the first back-to-back balanced budgets in 42 years. That has translated into a number of advances for blacks, including: more appointments to cabinet seats, judgeships and high posts than any administration in history; growing paychecks, increases in median income, shrinking welfare rolls, an all-time high for black unemployment, record unemployment lows, and more black business owners and CEOs than ever before.

"This is very good news," Slater said. "But while we have made record achievements under their watch, much work remains to be done."

Slater said the unemployment and poverty rates for blacks and other minorities are still nearly twice as high as the national average.

"We need to approach these challenges with the vision and vigor required to ensure that every American can reap the benefits of our nation's great economic future."

Slater and many of the top black elected officials and other key leaders met at the Eighth National Policy Institute in Washington, D.C. on January 22 to discuss issues they feel should be addressed by the presidential candidates. The list of speakers at the event included Donna Shalala, the Secretary of

Health and Human Services, Attorney General John Ashcroft, Joseph Lowery, and Commissioner Mary Frances Berry.

"With the first presidential primary in New Hampshire less than two weeks away, it was essential that African-Americans bring critical issues affecting our community to the forefront of the debate," said Eddie N. Williams, the president of the Joint Center.

One of the hot topics at the conference was HIV/AIDS and the black and Hispanic community. In 1998 blacks accounted for approximately 47 percent of the AIDS incidence rate, as compared with 31 percent for whites; black women alone have accounted for 56 percent of the cumulative AIDS cases among women ages 20 and older in 1998. Blacks are getting tested for HIV later in their illness

than whites; among intravenous drug users blacks more frequently test positive for HIV than other racial/ethnic groups; and, once tested, blacks are less likely than whites to be offered AZT by their physicians and less likely to use it.

"Overall, we've made amazing progress against AIDS since 1993, but still, two-thirds of all new cases in 1998 were among racial and ethnic minorities: 21,515 cases in the black population and 9,566 among Hispanics," said Shalala. "About 189,000 African-Americans live with HIV infection — that's more than any other minority group. In fact, HIV/AIDS is now the leading cause of death in all black males, aged 25-44."

The Center convened the conference and was one of the eight organizations co-sponsoring it. The other co-sponsors

were the Congressional Black Caucus, the Judicial Council of the National Bar Association, the National Association of Black County Officials, National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials, National Black Caucus of State Legislators, National Caucus of Black School Board Members, and the National Conference of Black Mayors.

The conference spanned three days and the topics of discussion: "Mobilizing to fight HIV/AIDS in the African American Community," "Removing the Ceiling: Racial Justice and Economic Advancement," featuring Johnnie Cochran, "The Impact of Economic Well Being on the Quality of Life," "Lifting the Floor: Economic Empowerment," and "Bridging the Economic Gap: Transportation and Community Development."

Patricia Harris honored in Postal Service Black Heritage

WASHINGTON—Patricia Roberts Harris, known for her steadfast determination and forthrightness, will become the 23rd American, and seventh woman honored on a commemorative postage stamp in the Black Heritage series. Harris, lawyer and politician, joins outstanding African American activists, theorists, writers, educators and leaders in the series.

Postal Service Governor LeGree S. Daniels officially dedicated this stamp on January 27, in a first day of issue ceremony held at Howard University in Washington, D.C.

"In the era of the March on Washington, Patricia Roberts Harris stood tall for the needs of the disadvantaged and was a powerful advocate of fairness and equality for all Americans," said Daniels. "She had a meaningful impact on African Americans, and she is an appropriate addition to the highly respected roster in the Postal Service's Black Heritage stamp series."

The daughter of a Pullman dining car waiter, Harris was born in 1924 in Mattoon, Illinois. An industrious and distinguished student, Harris gradu-

ated summa cum laude from Howard University in 1946, and later graduated from George Washington University National Law Center, finishing first in her class in 1961.

Harris's well-known public figure because of her numerous appointments and civil rights activities, has been called a "woman of firsts." President Lyndon B. Johnson named her U.S. ambassador of Luxembourg making her the first African American woman to serve in that position.

"In the era of the March on Washington, Patricia Roberts Harris stood tall for the needs of the disadvantaged and was a powerful advocate of fairness and equality for all Americans," LeGree S. Daniels

ambassadorial post. Her other achievements include: The first African Amer-

ican to hold a U.S. Cabinet position when President Carter named her Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and the first to hold two Cabinet positions when she became Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare; the first on major corporate Board of Directors including Chase Manhattan Bank and the first to serve as Dean of Howard University School of Law. Upon the conception of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority's official national headquarters, Harris became the first national executive director under the leadership of Dorothy Fields, the sorority's national president.

The stamp, designed by Howard Paine of Delaplane, Virginia, is the fifth in the Black Heritage series to feature a photograph.

The U.S. Postal Service continues its commitment to honoring the historical achievements and contributions of African Americans on stamps. The Black Heritage stamp series is a very popular, and given its significant educational importance, it will continue in the future.



BUSINESS CALENDAR

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3

NEWARK - A MINORITY ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM - 8A) PROGRAM WILL BE HELD FROM 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL (973) 645-4652

JERSEY CITY - NAABO EXTENDS SPECIAL INVITATION TO ALL HUDSON COUNTY WOMEN BUSINESS OWNERS A NETWORKING & INFORMATION MEETING FROM 4:00 PM TO 6:00 PM AT THE BRINKERHOFF GROUP FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL (201) 413-1110

WASHINGTON - THE NEW JERSEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HOSTS ITS 60TH CONGRESSIONAL DINNER AT THE MARriott MARION PARK HOTEL THROUGH FEB. 4, CALL (609) 989-7888 FOR INFORMATION

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4

NEWARK - NJ INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY PRESENTS "GOVERNMENT CONTRACTING FOR SMALL BUSINESS" AT THE NJIT INFO TECH BLDG. BETWEEN 10:00 AM TO 1:00 PM FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL (973) 996-3105

UNION - ACCOUNTING NEEDS FOR SMALL BUSINESS WILL BE OFFERED FROM 9 AM TO NOON AT THE UNION UNIVERSITY, 600 CAMPUS, ROOM 158-A FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL (908) 527-2945

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8

CAMDEN - A MINORITY ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM - 8A) PROGRAM WILL BE HELD FROM 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL (856) 338-1817

TRENTON - THE METROPOLITAN TRENTON AFRICAN AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PRESENTS A MONTHLY NETWORKING MEETING FEATURING MR. WILLIAM BROOKS WHO WILL SPEAK ON THE BENEFIT OF COLLABORATION AT MAXINE'S RESTAURANT FROM 11:30 AM TO 1:30 PM FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL (609) 393-9393

Student volunteers offer tax aid to elderly and low-income individuals

ROSELAND - Free tax return preparation is being offered this tax season to elderly individuals and people with low incomes through "Tax Aid," a volunteer program sponsored by the New Jersey Society of Certified Public Accountants (NJSCPA). Accountants for the Public Interest (API) and the IRS' Voluntary Income Tax Assistance Program.

Income tax returns are prepared by accounting students from Rutgers University-Newark, Montclair State University, and volunteers from API, and supervised by volunteer CPAs.

Tax Aid will run from February 3 through April 13. People who want to receive assistance through Tax Aid are requested to bring all pertinent information including their Social Security cards, W-2 forms, interest statements from banks, copies of their 1998 tax returns and the 1999 federal and state tax filing forms they received by mail.

NJSCPA - TAX AID TO ELDERLY AND LOW-INCOME INDIVIDUALS

• **Belleville Public Library, 221 Washington Avenue, Belleville**
Every Thursday 6-9 p.m., February 3 - April 13

• **Bloomfield Public Library, every Saturday 9 a.m.-noon, 1 Broad Street, February 5 - April 8, Bloomfield**

• **Clifton Public Library, 292 Pisquet Avenue, Clifton**

• **Glen Ridge Public Library, 340 Ridgewood Avenue, Glen Ridge, every Saturday, 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., February 5 - March 25, Every Monday 6-9pm, February 7 - April 10**

• **Newark Public Library, 5 Washington Street, Newark, every Wednesday, 5-7 p.m., February 23 - April 12, every Saturday 9 a.m. - noon, February 5 - April 8**

• **Perth Amboy, Dept. Human Services Bldg., 1 Olive Street, Perth Amboy, every Saturday 10 a.m.-noon, February 5 - April 8**

• **West New York Public Library, 425 50th Street, West New York, every Thursday 5-8 p.m., February 3 - April 13, every Saturday 9 a.m.-noon, February 5 - April 8**

Black media organization to hold Power Breakfast Seminar Series 2000

NEW YORK - Members of the metropolitan area financial and business community are invited to the table as WBS-FM Radio, Black Enterprise magazine, The Network Journal newspaper and Young Black Entrepreneurs together host the Power Breakfast Seminar Series 2000.

This valuable series represents an auspicious start to the year 2000 for blacks in the financial and business sector as well as for those seeking entry to the playing field.

Coming to Manhattan Roosevelt Hotel, this definitive series will expose registrants to key players in various industries and condense a wealth of expert

advice into five monthly seminars held from mid-February to late June. Trends and initiatives, investments, profit and resources are among the topics to be addressed as black entrepreneurs and professionals gather to sharpen their business tools and to network with peers.

The Power Breakfast Seminar Series 2000 opens Feb. 15 with "Bridging the Digital Divide: The Black Wealth Initiative" follows on March 14, with "Turning Your Passion into Profits" on April 19 and "New Opportunities, New Challenges for Black Business" on May 16. The series closes on June 20 as sponsors present "The Millionaire's Club: How to Start and

Run Your Own Investment Club."

Each of the five seminars will take place between 7:30 and 10 a.m. and a very special package makes this power-packed breakfast all the more enticing. Seminar guests can attend all five breakfasts for \$99, an exceptionally low fee that also includes one-year subscriptions to both Black Enterprise and The Network Journal.

Those opting to attend individual power breakfasts will be charged \$20 per seminar and \$25 at the door. Ticket information is available by calling (888) 432-1110 or by registering online with The Network Journal at www.tnj.com.

Ten Steps to Starting an Investment Club



Dale G. Caldwell

A great deal has been written about investment clubs over the last few months. This is a viable growth in the stock market has generated a great deal of publicity about investing. Stories of individual investors who became millionaires overnight have increased the general public's interest in investing in the stock market. Investment clubs are growing in number because they make it easier for new investors to invest in the stock market. There are over 10,000 investment clubs across the nation with combined portfolios in excess of \$300 billion. Some estimates indicate that investment clubs are being started at a rate of 100 a week.

An investment club is a group of people typically 5 to 25 people who contribute money to a fund and meet regularly to discuss how to invest their money. These members pool together their talent and money to research and invest in stocks.

The typical initial investment club entry fee ranges from \$250 to \$500 with monthly dues ranging from \$25 to \$250. The National Association of Investors Corporation is one of the best sources on investment clubs. According to their records most investment clubs are out-performed mutual funds. Investment clubs may therefore fit into your investment portfolio.

I am frequently asked the question "how do I start an investment club?" I have listed ten steps to starting an investment club below.

Let friends, family and co-workers know that you are interested in starting a mutual fund. Collect the names of people interested in potentially starting an investment club.

Set up a starter kit from the NAIC. Visit their website, call them at (877) 725-6242 or write them at P.O. Box 220, Royal Oak, MI 48068.

Set up a meeting for those people interested in joining an investment club. During this meeting the group should set up by laws, decide whether the group will be a partnership or corporation, discuss the investment objectives, initial contribution and monthly contribution.

Identify one or more professional advisors to speak regularly to the investment club. One of the main objectives of starting an investment club is to learn about investing. The most effective way to learn is to be taught by a professional.

Ask potential members to participate in a "shadow" investment club. Ask them to pretend that they were investing a certain amount each month in a mutual fund or a stock. They should track their investments as if they had invested money. This exercise will help potential members understand the

investment club process and the risk associated with joining a club.

Set up your initial investors meeting. At this meeting you finalize the details of the investment club. You have the members sign the membership contract, vote on officers and determine the timing and amount of their initial and monthly contributions.

The designated investment club financial advisor should make a presentation to the investment club at the club's second meeting. The advisor should teach club members about strategies for prudent investing. This session should provide a solid foundation for the club's investment program.

At the second meeting the leadership of the investment club should ask each member to research a potential investment for the next meeting. If any member has a question about investing they should ask the designated investment club financial planner. In the third meeting each member should discuss what they discovered in their research.

The investment club should not rush into making their first investment. The most successful clubs conduct extensive research before investing. Too often investment club members are not in synch when it comes to investment return goals. If you can get club members to agree on realistic investment goals your investment club will be well on its way to becoming a successful and educational experience for all members.

Set realistic rate of return goals. You should have a good sense of the investment price point to purchase or sell an investment. The investment club members are not in synch when it comes to investment return goals. If you can get club members to agree on realistic investment goals your investment club will be well on its way to becoming a successful and educational experience for all members.

Dale is a Certified Management Consultant and a former Certified Financial Planner. He has over ten years of experience providing financial planning advice to individuals, businesses and governments. Dale is the Founder and President of the National Association of Black Management Consultants, Incorporated. Information about the NAMBC can be found under "Partners" on the website. Dale is the Executive Director of the Black Alliance - a civic organization, led by corporate CEO's, focused on improving the quality of life in Newark, New Jersey. Dale is also the CEO of Crossroads Theatre Company in New Brunswick - the first Black Theatre to win a "Tony Award". Prior to joining the Newark Alliance Dale was a Senior Manager with Deloitte Consulting. You can e-mail him with your thoughts at dalecaldwell@aol.com.

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Black people respond to targeted marketing campaigns

According to a report by Packaged Facts*, black people are highly receptive to financial services that are marketed to them. Example: Deluxe Corporation, by creating a check series commemorating Dr. Martin Luther King, evaded their market projections by 15%.

*Packaged Facts is a product of FIND/STP Research Publications Group

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Minority Business Journal

The *Minority Business Journal* is a monthly publication focusing on minority and women business enterprise in New Jersey and New York City. *MBJ* regularly features the accomplishments of minority and women business owners, information concerning maintaining and expanding business, opportunities available for minority entrepreneurs, a calendar of events, editorial and commentary - issues facing minority businesses. *MBJ* offers an excellent resource for business and professional contacts. *MBJ* provides an important communication link to the information network vital to the growth and economic development of minority communities.

Minority Business-to-Business Directory

The *Minority Business-to-Business Directory* is a directory of minority- and woman-owned businesses and companies committed to doing business with minorities. The *Directory* network identifies minority and women business owners with whom public and private sector businesses can contract for products and services, and exposes a growing force of minority businesses to the general community. The *Directory* features listings and advertising as well as provides a resource, guide for minority and women entrepreneurs and potential entrepreneurs to help facilitate starting and maintaining a business. The *Minority Business-to-Business Directory* includes listings from public and private sector businesses and agencies, minority- and women-owned business and small businesses. A delineation of ownership is provided with each listing. The *Minority Business-to-Business Directory* is a tool for the growth and expansion of minority and women entrepreneurs and economic development in the African-American community.

Call (973) 642-4400 for more information

Minority Business Journal & Minority Business to Business Directory opens up a whole new world of possibility

Religion

POSITIVELY BLACK by Junious Ricardo Stanton

Our Dreams Are Blueprints for Possibilities

(NNPA) — "Remember, the dream world is real and the real world is but a dream away." — Baba Osaige Colby

"It isn't a calamity to die with dreams unfulfilled, but it is a calamity not to dream." — Benjamin Mays

We must never underestimate the power and efficacy of our dreams, visions and aspirations. They are often messages from Our deity to remind us of our divinely ordained purpose, specific mission or calling. Our dreams provide a glimpse of what is possible even if it has never been attempted or accomplished before. That is the magic, majesty and magnificence of the faculty of imagination; our innate ability to create, fashion and design in our minds eye new inventions, innovative ways of living, being and actualizing our intrinsic talents and potential.

Everything we see about us was first an idea, an image in the laboratory or studio of someone's mind — everything: good or evil. The paper you are reading or the computer screen you are seeing this on was an intangible idea: a thought, and a belief that it could be done.

Dreams can be used to inspire peace or war, health or degeneration, heaven or hell. It all depends on how they are used, how they are received, acted upon or ignored.

Adolph Hitler dreamed of ruling the world. As diabolical as his dreams were they were no more evil than say the dreams of "Manifest Destiny" or "The White Man's Burden."

Think about it. Someone actually set down and planned to steal whole countries, wage wars and exterminate millions of people. That was their dream. And their descendants who have directly benefited and profited from these dreams and ill-gotten gains feel no shame, guilt or culpability for all the suffering their ancestors sowed in the generations of people.

That is one example of what I call negative dreams and aspirations. But, positive dreams also have power. Can we not tap into the inner realm and use our dreams, ideas and wishes for our good?

Harriet Tubman dreamed of being free. So did Nat Turner. Both acted on their dreams.

Tubman made her way North and returned numerous times to lead hundreds of enslaved blacks to a less restrictive existence in the North. Turner's dream did not succeed. He set out to forcibly liberate Africans in bondage in Southampton County Virginia. His plans were foiled. He was caught and hung.

Was he a failure? No, because he attempted to make his dream real. He was against the odds and he was able to face death, standing erect, his head unbowed dying for what he believed — his right to be free.

What is the lesson in this, if any? The lesson is that our external reality, our outer world is directly impacted and shaped by our inner faculty of imagination. We have the power to reshape our outer environment but also our own lives.

Are we in total control of everything? No. There will be resistance and obstacles. Harriet et Tubman faced countless dangers, not the least was her own fear and doubt and that of the very people she risked her life to bring out of bondage. Turner faced overwhelming odds, he was outgunned, outmanned. He had no support or backup and most of his contemporaries didn't even believe freedom was possible, yet he dared not only to dream but also act he upon his dreams.

The dream world is real. It is where we get our courage, guidance and strength. Dreams show us the way, provide solutions to problems, answers to pivotal questions, insights and give us hope to keep pressing on when things look bleak. Dreams provide the blueprint for our realities, relationships and what is possible in our lives.

It is no disgrace not to accomplish all we dream. The disgrace is not to dream.

The disgrace (disgrace, to be

"Praise Explosion 2000" coming

NEW BRUNSWICK — "Happy music makes you feel good all the time," sang Donald Byrd's Blackbirds from back-in-the-day. And what better music to make you happy than what will be heard at "Praise Explosion 2000," a gospel music extravaganza. This musical event being hosted by Elder J.T. and Cee Cee Miller will take place February 5, 2000 at The Presbyterian Church, 100 Livingston Ave., New Brunswick at 7:30 p.m.

This year's featured artist is one of the most dynamic groups on the gospel circuit today, who go by the name of "Witness" and hail from Southfield, Michigan. Other featured area artists will include: Jay Nixon and Dumas of Queen, New York; Lorraine Stancil of Paterson; Min. Carl Jenkins and "X-Altation" of Trenton; and Judah of New Brunswick.

"Praise Explosion 2000" will be held with excitement and anticipation from the moment you take your seat. You will witness gospel lovers throughout the fashion area making a joyful noise to the happy music being brought to them by the line-up of musical treats. The end result — soul stirring, uplifting and life-altering. The audience and musicians alike will be leaving with no choice but to bask in a blanket of joy.

Invite family and friends to a new millennium experience, you'll be glad you did. For more information contact (908) 822-0966 or (908) 822-8582. This event is being sponsored by Evangelistic Outreach Ministries, Inc.



Lorraine Stancil



Witness

Obituaries

Ellen Walker Craig-Jones, first black woman to be elected mayor, dies at 93

URBANCREST, Ohio (AP) — Ellen Walker Craig-Jones, honored as the first black woman elected mayor of a U.S. municipality, has died. She was 93.

Mrs. Craig-Jones died Sunday at her home in this village of about 860 residents near Columbus. A cause of death was not released.

Mrs. Craig-Jones had been mayor from 1972 to 1975, and previously served 12 years as a Village Council member.

She was inducted in 1994

into the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame as the first black woman to become mayor of a U.S. municipality. Industries are women who have demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to excellence, achievement, and service to others.

"She was a powerful little woman, truly a servant-leader if there ever was one," Hall of Fame manager Ellen Braddock said Tuesday. "She really does represent what the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame is all about."

During her tenure as mayor, Mrs. Craig-Jones oversaw the modernization of various village programs.

Afterward, she continued to serve her community, establishing a child-care facility and remaining active in Union Baptist Church.

"She would neglect herself if she had to," said Fannie Collins, 81, Mrs. Craig-Jones' niece. "She helped anyone who asked."

She is survived by son and a daughter.

Veteran actor Jester Hairston dies at 98

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Jester Hairston, who appeared on radio and TV's "Amos 'n' Andy," and worked on the music for many movies, has died. He was 98 years old.

Hairston is likely best known to a younger generation of fans as the wise old church member Rolly on the sitcom "Amos."

Hairston, the grandson of a slave, was a pioneering black character actor, appearing often as a domestic or, in several Tarzan movies, as a jungle native shouting lines like "Bwana, bwana!"

Although those roles, and his work on "Amos 'n' Andy," would be harshly criticized in later years as perpetuating racial stereotypes, he made no apologies, saying he took what work he could get and helped pave the way for younger black actors to find better jobs later.

"Amos," with a black cast, was the first hit TV show based on religion when it debuted on TV in

1966. It aired until 1991.

"He had a hard time then fighting for dignity," Hairston said of his early years in Hollywood. "We had no power. We had to take it, and because we took it the young people today have opportunities."

Within the entertainment industry itself, Hairston may have been best known as a choral music director. He composed or arranged more than 300 spirituals used in such films as "Red River" and "She Wore a Yellow Ribbon."

Hairston's best known music was his arrangement of "Amos," which he dubbed for Sidney Poitier in the 1963 film, "Lilies of the Field."

Born in Belows Creek, N.C., in 1901, Hairston moved as a child to Pittsburgh, where several generations of his family worked in steel mills.

He was granted a scholarship from his Baptist church and

enrolled in landscape design at Massachusetts Agricultural College, now the University of Massachusetts. There a patroness was so impressed with his singing that she offered to finance his musical education. He graduated from Tufts University in 1929.

Hairston came to California in 1935 and got his big break when Russian-born conductor and composer Dmitri Shostakovich asked him to conduct a choir for the 1936 film "Lost Horizons," which won an Oscar for best score. The two collaborated for the next two decades.

Hairston also appeared in such films as "In the Heat of the Night," "Baby Sings the Blues" and "To Kill a Mockingbird."

He is survived by his daughter, Jesse-Marie Swann of Los Angeles; three grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held at Mount Zion Methodist Church in Los Angeles.

Monumental Baptist to host Senior Seminar 2000

JERSEY CITY — Monumental Baptist Church, in conjunction with Jackson Funeral Residence, will proudly host a Senior Seminar 2000. "Preparing for the Millennium," will address some key economic, social and legal concerns of the aging in the community," said Rosalyn A. Burns-Brown, chairwoman of the event.

A community service effort, Senior Seminar 2000 "Preparing for the Millennium," will address some key economic, social and legal concerns of the aging in the community," said Rosalyn A. Burns-Brown, chairwoman of the event.

The seminar is endorsed by Pastor James Jones. The idea was born from a need to exchange information with seniors, who, according to Rev. Jones, most often don't have anyone to talk to.

"This is our initial effort to host this as a community project," said Rev. Jones. "We want them (seniors) to know they're not the gone and forgotten group and that they're well thought of."

Some of the speakers and organizations represented at the event will include: the Hudson County Office on Aging; Jersey City Office of Senior Affairs; Hudson County Surrogate Court; Jersey City Social Security Administration; Cynthia Jackson, Esq.; Harold Grodberg, Esq.; Progressive Nursing Center; Let's Celebrate It, and Jackson Funeral Residence.

Prayer Corner Food for thought

"Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands."
Isaiah 49:16

A few ladies got up early one morning and left home on their way to the sepulcher where Jesus had been buried. A large stone had been placed in the doorway. So, on their way there, they had a discussion about it; they asked, "Who will roll away the stone?" Obviously, they felt that they were not strong enough to move it. Most likely they had lost some sleep the night before, worrying about the problem they thought they had. Well, when they arrived, the stone had been rolled away (Mark 16).

Many times we spend hours trying to figure out how God is going to solve our problems: wasted time. And, sometimes some of us lose a lot of sleep because we are worrying. Worry can make one sick. It comes from the devil, and we have the power to let the devil to take a walk, we must use it. God has already solved every problem. "None of them that trust in Him shall be desolate" — Psalm 34:22 and "thy sleep shall be sweet" — Proverbs 3:24.

New Jersey Department of Human Services
Division of Youth and Family Services

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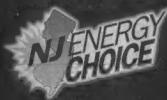


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Local Briefs

New Jersey's decline in firearms accidents reflects national trend

NEWTOWN, Conn. — Accidental firearms fatalities in New Jersey have declined by 53 percent since 1987, according to the National Safety Council. The state's decline has helped contribute to an overall national reduction in accidental fatalities which are at their lowest level since record keeping began in 1903. New Jersey reported 9 fatalities in 1998. In 1987, New Jersey reported 19 accidental deaths due to firearms.

"This significant drop in firearms accidents underscores the importance and effectiveness of numerous firearms safety and education programs that have been in place for many years," said Bob Delley, president and CEO of the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF), an industry trade association of manufacturers, distributors and retailers that promotes firearms safety.

A national total of 900 fatal firearm accidents were reported in 1998. The national report represents a 18 percent decline from the previous year and a 40 percent decline for the 10 year period 1989-1999, and a decline of 54 percent over the last 25 years. Of the total number of accidental fatalities attributed to firearms in 1998, 700 of these occurred in the home, a decline of 12.5 percent from the previous year, and 200 occurred in public places.

Pou's Rodent Control Bill advances

TRENTON — The Assembly recently released legislation that would appropriate \$38,000 for urban rodent control programs in Paterson, Camden, Jersey City, and Newark. The bill (A-1177), sponsored by Assemblywoman Nellie Pou, D-Paterson, would provide for the federal Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant program.

"There is no way of telling how many rats there are in New Jersey cities, but we do know the efforts to control those pests are not as intense as they used to be," said Pou.

The legislation, when approved, will provide \$38,000 to Epidemiology, Environmental and Occupational Health Service's grants account to fund urban rodent control programs in four cities.

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Officials are counting on you to make Census 2000

All efforts to help make Census 2000 a success are beginning to shift into full gear.

Hillside Township and many other municipalities in Union and Essex Counties are preparing for "The largest peace-time mobilization," to ever be planned in New Jersey. A reunion, sponsored by the Hillside township council president, Leonard Gilbert, was approved supporting Census 2000 and making Hillside a bonafide sponsor to the national census count project.

"I felt it was important for the township council to be on board for census 2000," Gilbert said. "The federal government is handling the actual work of taking the census but each municipality is beginning to offer full support." We can't underestimate how important it is to make sure Hillside is properly represented at all levels of government.

"Everyone's support will be needed to reach all anticipated 275 million people across the United States and you are needed to make it a success," said United States Representative Donald Payne, D-10.

All residents will be urged to complete and return the census surveys that will be mailed out in April. Census takers will go door-to-door to obtain information from those persons who

and fall through the Census Bureau's partnership program produced positive responses in the ethnic communities. These communities require special attention to educate everyone on the value of the census.

The U.S. Census 2000 timeline starts in January when actual recruiting begins. In the month of February, special place operations get underway.

March 13 kicks off questionnaires to be mailed out to households. On March 14 the questionnaire Assistance Centers Open.

April 1st is the scheduled Census Day — fill out and mail back your form. Hiring and training of Census 2000 enumerators will begin April 14 and the last week of April, the census field enumeration begins.

To substantially increase mail return rate in all areas in the NY-NJ region, the US Census Bureau is considering an aggressive campaign to reach its goals.

"We want to convince all households to complete a questionnaire and send it in by April 1, 2000," Payne said.

Help make the Black community count!



do not respond to the mailings.

"Start by spreading the word about the importance of the Census," Payne said. "See the record straight by dispelling myths about confidentiality and uses of the census."

Extensive efforts to reach the community this summer

orderly persons offenses, pending the investigation.

The officers indicted are identified as Sergeant Anthony Caruso, a 10-year veteran, Police Officer Wendell Harper a 9-year veteran, Police Officer Mario Gonzalez-Cardona a 2-year veteran, and former probationary Officers Christopher Giallanella, Anthony Venancio and Silas Smith.

"Our oath of office places an obligation to protect citizens from criminal behavior no matter who they are," said Santiago. "Our community will only continue to support the Police Department if it believes that no one is above the law."

Police

continued from A1

face and a lacerated forehead. Aiden, a 23-year-old Newark resident, was arrested and brought to the station house where he was taken to the kitchen area and beaten. The officers said to have informed prison inmates in a holding cell that he was a child molester, the prosecutor said. The report states that four inmates took part in an assault when Aiden was placed into a holding cell. The four inmates are currently being held for dis-

Florio

continued from A1

florid effort to assist states and localities fund school construction and repay initiatives. The patients' and providers' bill of rights will protect doctors and patients from insurance company abuses.

Finally, Florio spoke about the differences between his candidacy and that of his primary opponent, Corzine. One of those differences is a proposal to put at least 15 percent of the Social Security Trust Fund in the stock market.

"Jim Florio is adamantly opposed to putting any of the Social Security trust fund in the stock market," said Beth Shipp, his campaign manager. "The stock market is volatile and people could end up losing money instead of having a guaranteed retirement. The only people who are profiting from such a scheme are his Wall Street broker buddies."

Florio said another difference between himself and Corzine is that he's been talking about issues and putting forward specific ideas, whereas his opponent has not. He said this process

should not be about money and politicians, it should be about people, and he is willing to argue the point in a series of debates throughout New Jersey.

"I have accepted debate offers, but Mr. Corzine has not," he said. "If the presidential candidates can debate, so can we."

Michael Murphy, the chairman of the Florio for Senate Committee, agreed. He has called on Essex County Democratic Party Chairman Thomas P. Giblin to explain why he has suddenly endorsed Corzine in light of past "scathing" comments about Corzine and his record on supporting Republican candidates, causes, and positions. How can Giblin justify his support?

"Only a couple of months ago, Tom Giblin questioned Jan Corzine for failing to vote in nearly every Democratic primary election, how he was hiding from public appearances, why he refused to comment on how his billion dollar business deals hurt hundreds of thousands of working families, and how he is trying to buy the Senate election," Murphy said. "Suddenly Jan Corzine has become a 'good Democrat' in the eyes of Tom Giblin. Why was there such a sudden reversal in opinion?"

when he thought we needed it and now we're going to have to start supporting him the way he supports us."

James, Essex County Democratic Chair Tom Giblin, Assemblyman William Payne, and other members of the Essex County Democratic Committee — attended the press conference.

Corzine's campaign slogan is "It's time to get bold things done." He said he is a citizen, not a politician, and he wants to be an advocate for a fair, inclusive society. In addition, he has put his money where his mouth is by hiring a black woman, Christy Davis, to be his campaign manager.

That being the case, if elected, Corzine has promised that he is in favor of health care that will cover all children, provide affordable prescription drugs, seniors under Medicare, maternal health insurance premiums for the self-employed immediately tax deductible, and require employers to provide health coverage for all their workers.

Senior center dedicates computer lab

PLAINFIELD — Plainfield Mayor Al McWilliams dedicated the new computer lab for seniors at the Plainfield Senior Center on 305 East Front Street last month.

The lab consists of a dozen Pentium-grade computers, with access to the Internet. The dedication ceremony was hosted by Patty Bender, director of the Senior Center.

The idea is the brainchild of Frank Brooks, the city's grants writer, who teaches a weekly computer class for seniors, and Dan Damon the city's public information officer, who is also

president of the organization which donated the computers.

Damon's organization, Plainfield Community Outreach, is the non-profit of Grace Episcopal Church and operates "Girlspace," an after-school computer program for girls in grades 3 through 8.

"When we got a grant which allowed us to upgrade and enlarge our 'Girlspace' lab," says McWilliams, "I mentioned to Dan Brooks that we would be looking to donate a dozen computers, along with tables and chairs, to an agency which would make good use of them."

Brooks accepted the donation on behalf of the Senior Center and arranged for upgrades to make them more powerful. The Plainfield Board of Education arranged for monitors to be donated, and the result will be a state-of-the-art computer facility for Plainfield's seniors.

With all the excitement of the Internet, seniors are flocking in droves to take up computers," says McWilliams, "and we are certainly delighted to be in the forefront of making them available to Plainfield's seniors through our own Senior Center."

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Burger King Corporation firmly believes that Black History should never be a thing of the past.



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CityLife

February 2 — February 8, 2000

City News B1

Get focused on Black History Month



Robert H. McNeill, pictured here in the early 20th century, captured the life of African Americans in Washington D.C. and historic yet simple moments in the past lives of African Americans in the nation's capitol.

Below are some snapshots taken by McNeill of Washington D.C. natives from the past, and some in the present, include a student at the Ellington School for the Arts (second from top), historians (l) James O. Morton and (r) Edward C. Smith (third from bottom, and (bottom) correspondent and executive producer Hendrick Smith talks with architect Paul Devroux.

Photo by Robert H. McNeill



Photo by Robert H. McNeill



Photo by Susan Zox



Photo by Susan Zox



Photo by Susan Zox



Photo by Robert H. McNeill



Photo by Susan Zox

Duke Ellington as D.C. native

Duke Ellington's Washington

DUKE ELLINGTON'S WASHINGTON, a new PBS documentary, tells the often overlooked but significant history of the influential African-American community that flourished in Washington, D.C., in the early 20th Century, nurturing such shining talents as hometown jazz legend Duke Ellington, Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, poets Paul Laurence Dunbar and Langston Hughes, civil rights activist Mary Church Terrell and pioneering surgeon Charles Drew.

This dynamic community, less than a mile from the White House, is cited by historians as the cultural capital of black America before the Harlem Renaissance. Over time, with its famed Howard Theater and many other night spots, Washington's Uptown area became a mecca for jazz giants like Ellington, Louis Armstrong, Ella

Fitzgerald and Pearl Bailey, who called Washington's U Street "the black Broadway."

DUKE ELLINGTON'S WASHINGTON, which tells both the past and present of this African American community will premiere nationwide on PBS Feb. 7 at 10 a.m. ET (check local listings) as a feature of Black History Month. The hour long program was created by award-winners Hendrick Smith, as

Executive producer and correspondent and Stanley Nelson, as producer and director. Featured are jazz pianist Billy Taylor, historians James O. Morton and Edward C. Smith, Charles and Virginia Williams (who fell in love over one of Duke Ellington's compositions, "I Let A Song Go Out of My Heart"), Alice Springs (daughter of Harry G. Hunt, Ellington's first music teacher), photographer Robert H. McNeill, architect Paul Devroux, and many others. The film also features rare photographs

of the community residents and businesses by photographers Addison Scurlock and Mr. McNeill.

DUKE ELLINGTON'S WASHINGTON is a production of Hendrick Smith Productions, Inc. and is presented on PBS by South Carolina Educational Television Network. Associate producer and video/photo archivist Teresa G. Glonis. Project Consultants/Historical Advisers: Kathryn Schneider Smith, Washington Tourism Heritage Project; John Edward Masse, Museum of National History, Smithsonian Institution Professor James Horton, George Washington University; Professor Edward S. Smith, American University. Professor Mark Tucker, College of William and Mary. Still photographer Susan Zox. Production assistants: Susan Kerin and Aneka Hyton-Donelson.



Robert H. McNeill then...



and now.


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February 15
Bridging The Digital Divide

Executive Editor **Alfred Edmond Jr.** will discuss the new technology and developmental products available for African American professionals. The session will provide you with getting the skills necessary to compete in today's high tech world. Guest speakers are **Mr. Clayton Banks, President-CEO Ember Media** and **Mr. Bob Jones General Manager, Microsoft Corporation.**

March 14
The Black Wealth Initiative

Executive Editor **Alfred Edmond Jr.** reveals the Black Wealth Initiative, **BLACK ENTERPRISE** Magazine's comprehensive wealth-building program. He will challenge listeners to embrace and sign the Declaration of Financial Empowerment, a self-empowerment tool that will help African Americans commit to take charge of their finances. Special guest speaker **Mr. George Fraser** author of "Success Runs In Our Race".

April 19
Turning Your Passion Into Profits

Editor-At-Large **Derek T. Dingle** provides you with the steps you can take to turn a hobby or a skill into a thriving business venture. The program will also include tips on how to instill the same entrepreneurial spirit in your child. Special guest speaker **Ms. Terrie Williams, President The Terrie Williams Agency.**

May 16
**New Opportunities,
New Challenges for Black Business**

Editor-At-Large **Derek T. Dingle** gives the annual report of the B.E. 100s-the nation's largest black-owned businesses and reveals significant trends that may hamper and propel African American owned enterprises.

June 20
**The Millionaire's Club: How To
Start And Run Your Own Investment
Club And Make Your Money Grow**

Do you want to be independently wealthy? Contributing Editor **Carolyn Brown** provides listeners with pointers on how to launch and develop a successful investment club. She shares with them tips and examples from her new book in the *Black Enterprise* series.

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Heartbeat Calendar

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1

TEANECK - The Stela C. Van Houten Women's Outpatient Center of Holy Name Hospital is offering The Breast Cancer Support Group for African women ages 7 to 12, from 3:45 to 4:30 p.m. For more information call (201) 833-7100.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2

TEANECK - The Stela C. Van Houten Women's Outpatient Center of Holy Name Hospital is offering The Breast Cancer Support Group for African women ages 7 to 12, from 3:45 to 4:30 p.m. For more information call (201) 833-7100.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3

TEANECK - The Stela C. Van Houten Women's Outpatient Center of Holy Name Hospital is offering The Breast Cancer Support Group for African women ages 7 to 12, from 3:45 to 4:30 p.m. For more information call (201) 833-7100.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

JERSEY CITY - Jersey City Medical Center is pleased to announce a Support Group for New Jersey's underserved African American patients from 8:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. This Support Group will meet every second Wednesday of the every month. For more information, call (201) 915-2200.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17

BERKELEY HEIGHTS - The next Community Outreach Program of R.I.'s Specialized Hospital of Union County will meet from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. in the Family Resource Room. For more information call (908) 771-5834.

TEANECK - The Women's Outpatient Center of Holy Name Hospital is offering a series of health and fitness classes. "Getting Physical - Body Movement Techniques to Live It Up" 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. in the Main Hall. For more information call (201) 833-7100.

THURSDAY, MARCH 9

NEW BRUNSWICK - NJ State Bar Foundation presents a free seminar for the public on "Medicare-Medicaid" from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the NJ State Bar Center. For more information call 1-800-FREE-LAW.

THURSDAY, MARCH 16

BERKELEY HEIGHTS - Careway Women's Family Support Group at Runne is Specialized Hospital of Union County from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. This support group meets every 3rd Thursday.

ADA kicks off 'Diabetes Sundays'

SOMERSET - In conjunction with Black History Month, the American Diabetes Association will join forces with local churches and communities to kick off their program called "Diabetes Sundays."

"Diabetes Sunday" is a component of the African American Program to support education of diabetes taking place in church services, health fairs, centers and senior centers in neighborhoods across the state to create awareness and prevention of diabetes.

"This program has been very effective in getting the message out to African Americans and other high risk groups about the importance of diabetes education," said Paul Day, Area Executive Director for the American Diabetes Association. "Education is a key component in preventing diabetes."

Approximately 2.3 million or 10.8 percent of African Americans have diabetes, however one-third of them do not know it. African Americans are 1.7 times more likely to have diabetes and 25 percent of African Americans with diabetes are between the ages of 65 and 74. Life of diagnosed diabetes in African American community has tripled in the past 30 years.

Diabetes is a chronic disease that has no cure. It is a disease in which the body does not produce enough insulin, a hormone that is needed to convert sugar from food and other food into energy needed for daily life. The cause of diabetes is a mystery, although both genetics and environmental factors such as obesity and lack of exercise appear to play roles.

Often people with diabetes have no symptoms, but symptoms include frequent urination.

HeartBeat Tobacco and African Americans: Then and Now

Part 1 of 4

The onset of slavery in America can be directly linked to the beginning of tobacco production. Though many factors contributed to slavery in the New World, tobacco was the main reason it first flourished. The history of African Americans and tobacco is compelling, a poignant testament to many blacks who were brutally enslaved because of the lucrative crop. The African American experience in America imparts a captivating story of the struggle tobacco has had on generations of African Americans.

Contrary to popular belief the first blacks to set foot in this country did not necessarily arrive as slaves. Historian Lerone Bennett, Jr. writes in "Before the Mayflower: The History of the Negro in America (1966)," black Christians born in Spain and Portugal were among the first settlers of the New World. Negro explorers, servants and slaves accompanied French, Spanish and Portuguese explorers on their expeditions in North and South America.

Indentured Servitude in America

In 1619, a Dutch ship arrived in Jamestown, Virginia carrying 20 African indentured servants. But Africans were not the only new people to come as servants. In "Black Saga: The African American Experience" 1998, Dr. Charles M. Culpeper writes, "Thousands of whites... indentured servants (sold... for passage as laborers) came to the colonies." From the early 16th-1600s, most blacks and whites shared a common lifestyle. For about 40 years, blacks accumulated land, wealth, and power, and mingled socially with whites. Historian Kenneth Stampp wrote in "The Peculiar Institution" that the first black settlers fell into a well-established socio-economic groove that carried no implications of racial inferiority.



Tobacco Popularity Grows

So, how did blacks go from being accepted members of society to contemptible slaves? One of the main reasons is tobacco. According to Dr. Christian, tobacco was introduced in Jamestown in 1612 and quickly grew in popularity. As tobacco production increased, landowners needed more workers to cultivate this labor-intensive crop. By 1619, tobacco was an important cash crop for the settlement. During this period, black and white indentured servants worked side by side in the tobacco fields. In 1625, the Virginia court distinguished between black servitude and black slavery, foreshadowing a series of later laws that would deprive blacks of freedom. By 1627, tobacco exports soared and became the most profitable crop for several colonies. Tobacco was so important in Maryland, Virginia and the northern Carolina colony that it became a medium of exchange.

Because growing tobacco required considerable labor, its cultivation led to bringing even more black slaves to these shores.

Dr. Christian writes that as the demand for tobacco grew, working conditions for black and white indentured servants worsened. "Servants were treated harshly by planters who wanted to get the most from their labor. Half of all servants died during their indenture. As long as there were plenty of white indentured servants, when blacks ran into a bother with importing a large number of African workers."

But the tobacco industry expanded and colonists looked at blacks as superior workers; they appeared to be stronger than whites or Native Americans and less susceptible to the diseases that plagued Native Americans. Moreover, when blacks ran into a bother with importing a large number of African workers, they were quickly captured.

By the mid-1600s, the slave trade flourished with established routes connecting North America, Africa and the West Indies. Manufactured goods were traded in Africa for slaves who were taken to the West Indies and "broken in" before being taken to mainland North America. The increasing demand for manual labor in cultivating tobacco and other crops led to slavery becoming a profit-making industry. Later, slaves were brought directly to America.

Tobacco Becomes King

According to Dr. Christian, the plantation economy was firmly established by the 1700s in the Southern colonies of Maryland, Virginia and Northern Carolina, often referred to as the Chesapeake region. About 81 percent of blacks in North America at this time lived in the Southern colonies and most worked as field laborers. The most frequently grown crops included tobacco, cotton, rice

indigo and sugar cane.

By the late 1700s, the most prevailing aspect of life in the Chesapeake was the dependence upon tobacco and its cultivation demanded slaves. Prior to the American Revolution, tobacco from the Chesapeake region accounted for nearly half of Britain's trade with the colonies. During the war, however, a considerable number of slaves were lost to the British, who promised them freedom if they enlisted on their side. Many more slaves ran away to Canada or Florida or took refuge with friendly Native American tribes.

It is estimated that more than 100,000 black slaves gained their freedom as a direct result of the Revolutionary War. The post-war decrease in slave labor contributed significantly to a major slump in tobacco exports.

By 1790, tobacco had recovered and its production peaked.

As much as 91 percent of the slave population was found in the South. The largest concentrations were in the tobacco-growing areas of Maryland, Virginia and the rice growing area of the South Carolina coast. From this time on, tobacco production declined as cotton production increased, due to a number of factors including soil exhaustion and disruption of foreign trade due to the Napoleonic Wars. By 1800, cotton was replacing tobacco as the most profitable crop throughout the South. By 1850, two-thirds of the world's cotton was produced by the slave states.

Tobacco directly contributed to slavery in America. Even though most African Americans no longer toil in tobacco fields, this crop continues its insidious hold on blacks, contributing to heart disease, cancer and stroke—all leading causes of death among African Americans. Human suffering, the black community continues to find itself at the mercy of tobacco.

With the high cost of human suffering, the black community continues to find itself at the mercy of tobacco.

MESAB has a new president

NEW BRUNSWICK - Media Education for South African Blacks, a nonprofit organization that raises money for black South Africans seeking careers in healthcare, has named James W. Scott president of the organization. Prior to MESAB, Mr. Scott served as vice president of the Children's Hour campaign of the International Youth Foundation. "The Hour is a global initiative where corporations, governments and their employees join forces to raise awareness and funding for youth development. Mr. Scott is a former officer and senior executive of Kellogg Company USA, where he held numerous management positions over a career that spans nearly two decades.

"In my heart, I know there are a large number of organizations, individuals and corporations that want to support the positive change that is underway in South Africa," said Scott. "It's my job to make known the success of MESAB in helping to provide medical training for the previously neglected black population of South Africa. I want everyone, everywhere to have the opportunity to contribute."

Cancer Institute of NJ looking for women for treatment clinic

NEW BRUNSWICK - The Cancer Institute of New Jersey is seeking post-menopausal women over the age of 35 to participate in a new clinical trial aimed at preventing breast cancer. The trial, entitled STAR (Study of Tamoxifen and Raloxifene), compares the effectiveness of using the drugs tamoxifen and raloxifene to reduce the occurrence of breast cancer in women who are most susceptible to the disease.

CINJ is looking for 100 participants every year over a five-year period to take part in the study. The women will be given either tamoxifen or raloxifene and monitored regularly through scheduled health examinations by trained professionals. STAR is being conducted by the National Surgical Adjuvant Breast & Bowel Project and is supported by the National Cancer Institute. In total, 22,000 women are expected to participate in this trial nationwide.

Scott holds a Masters degree in the University of Pennsylvania and a Master of Business Administration from National University in San Diego, CA. MESAB, nonprofit organization based in New Brunswick was founded in 1985 by retired foreign service officer Herbert Kaiser and his wife Joy, to overcome the extreme disparity of opportunity for health care between blacks and whites in South Africa. Though blacks made up an overwhelming majority of the population at the time, there were only 500 black physicians in the entire country and most black citizens had limited access to health care.

The Kaisers sought to rectify this imbalance by establishing programs that increased the number of black medical professionals, specifically by raising scholarship funds for students pursuing a career in health care. These programs include mentorship initiatives, which pair experienced students with new scholarship recipients in an effort to help the new students adjust to what is often an unfamiliar environment.

Since 1987, MESAB has awarded 4,000 scholarships.

"We are pleased that we can now give New Jersey women who are at high risk for developing breast cancer another option through this promising protocol," said Deborah Toppmeyer, M.D., co-principal investigator of STAR at CINJ and director of the New Jersey Comprehensive Breast Cancer Center of Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, and CINJ.

"We are pleased that we can now give New Jersey women who are at high risk for developing breast cancer another option through this promising protocol," said Deborah Toppmeyer, M.D., co-principal investigator of STAR at CINJ and director of the New Jersey Comprehensive Breast Cancer Center of Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, and CINJ.



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Music Reviews



Various Artists *Any Given Sunday Soundtrack* (Atlantic Records)

The saying goes that you can't please everybody, and the "Any Given Sunday Soundtrack" is not exempt from that truism. But just like the Sharks, Jamie Foxx's team in the movie, this album takes its challenge and scores a few points in the meanwhile.

The album features a variety of artists that appeal to the most popular music genres out there today.

For those hip-hop heads it is an audio buffet of different styles to sample from. For the Dirty South fans, Missy Elliott opens the album with another solid track that is pretty typical of her style and nothing extraordinary, yet entertaining, as well as Goodie Mob's "Sole Sunday," featuring Outkast.

For the East Coast listeners, DMX's "My Nigga," LL Cool J's "Shut Em Down," and Eve, Drag-On, and Swizz Beatz's "Move Right Now," are also decent selections from these artists. The West Coast lovers will be entertained with Tricky Diddy and company, and Mystikal.

Yet, the cast would not be complete without Kid Rock, Hole, Godsmack, and Overseer, who will grab the attention of the "fly white guy" sub-genre of hip-hop.

Even though the album is a decent selection of artists and songs, the penalty this reviewer must give is Jamie Foxx's appearance on it. The under-rated and over-talented comedian does not take the opportunity to really shine on his own tracks. The most he gives to the album is singing the hook to the title track while playing second fiddle to Guru and Common.

However this album is worth your money and will be sure to please.

RONNIE FOSTER CHOW YUN FAT



Various Artists *Anna and the King* (LaFace/Arista Records)

This soundtrack is a unique selection of music in its attempt not to appeal or exploit mainstream artists or music and sacred producing a very good score that brings plays like an optimistic Titanic score.

Executive produced by Babyface, only one artist, Joy Enriquez, is featured out with a beautiful ballad, "How Can I Not Love You," written by George Fenton.

The rest of the album is instrumental music influenced by the region and period of the movie's setting, thus setting a sense of elegance and classical style. Many will appreciate the addition of Chinese music and style with flutes and chimes addressing every violin stroke. Listeners will find the flow of the album as calm and relaxing as the back of the CD case which depicts a fishing boat nestled in a deep blue sea with the distant yet regal display of ancient and rugged domain veiled slightly by a thin nautical veil of mist.

Christian rap is becoming more popular

By Earlene McMichael

(AP) — Visor cocked to the side, 16-year-old Josh Williams, wearing designer jeans and gym shoes, stands in front of his synthesizer, looking very much the part of a disc jockey.

He's mixing up some head-bopping instrumentals so he and his best friend, Anthony Eatmon with whom he has formed a rap group called Klone, can practice their routine for an upcoming performance.

A few adjustments of some knobs, the beat is just right, and no wit's showtime Williams steps away from the synthesizer and joins Eatmon, 16, for a song called "Out of Love."

This song of love has no boasts of sexual conquests, like some raps. In fact, there's no mention of a woman at all. The object of these teenagers' affection is Jesus Christ, and they dream of making it big singing his praises.

"Our vision is to bring Christian hip-hop to the masses through quality music," Eatmon says.

While Klone has not yet secured a record deal, their interest in Christian hip-hop music is representative of its growing popularity among young people across the country.

On this particular night, the duo are recording in the basement of the Christian Life Center, the church they attend in Kalamazoo, honing their skills in preparation for their break. They hope their church's blessing to be there.

With the bad-boy image of rap as one that promotes violence, profanity, the degradation of women, and disrespect for authority figures, it would seem the church and hip-hop music would be unlikely allies.

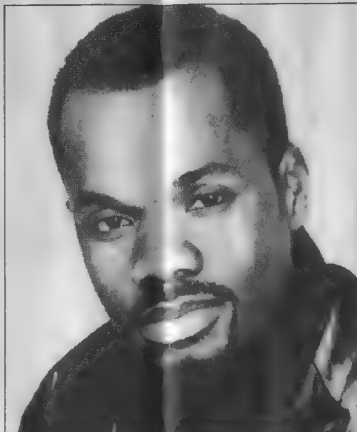
But as ever more Christian rappers getting record contracts, the tarnished reputation of the rap art form is getting a makeover. This new genre is winning acceptance among believers and non-believers alike.

Perhaps the biggest seal of approval is the fact that mainstream media, like MTV and Black Entertainment Television, are playing the videos of rappers who are unashamedly preaching the gospel.

"You're going to see a lot of music starting to crossover," said Robert White, a producer for BET's "Rap City" video show.

Some believe the secular industry has some true competition.

"Oh, my God, the beats are better than secular beats that I hear," said Ray Majoran, the founder of hiphopzone.com, a



Kirk Franklin has become one of the most recognizable figures in Christian hip-hop as the rising sub-genre of gospel has become a new way to reach the hip-hop generation.

Christian hip-hop web site, pointing to the rising group of the Cross Movement.

While not yet approaching the sales of secular music, the Cross Movement's new release, "House of Representatives," is selling three times better than its first CD.

Now artists are recording in full studio units, and the lyrics are for traditional youths today, Majoran said.

"They're also getting label support, either on their own labels or labels that are already established."

"When I was in the seventh grade and you asked someone if they heard of the Gospel Gangstaz, they'd say 'no,'" says Eatmon, a 16-year-old junior at Kalamazoo Central High School.

Now they can at least hear they've heard of them," he says. For their part, some parents who might otherwise dislike rap music are willing to allow their teens to listen to the music when the messianic, Christian one.

"I don't have a problem with it," says Isha Williams, do-

cellis Smith, who operates an all-Christian hip-hop dance club in Detroit for the under-30 crowd. He is a co-youth pastor at Jubilee Christian Church in Detroit.

"People have looked at hip-hop and rap as being from the throne room of hell because of the negative that is in some rap," Smith said. "Our view is that Satan has no creative power. All he does is pervert."

For those artists serious about Christian hip-hop, it is more than just music. It's a ministry.

"That's what's so strong about it," says White of Black Entertainment Television. "Sometimes, they will do a performance without getting paid because it is about bringing youths to Christ, saving our youth."

Some of the biggest Christian hip-hop acts in the business have performed at The Stable, an all-Christian hip-hop dance club that opened in May 1998 in one of the roughest neighborhoods in Detroit.

Despite its location, an average of 300 people, mostly teens, flock to the club on Friday nights. There, some accept Christ as their savior on the dance floor.

"It validates our existence," says Smith, who serves as director of operations. "This is why we're here. It's not just about the music."

While the lights are low and a disco ball and strobe lights adorn the place, rules are strict, including no drinking, smoking or drugs. Security personnel patrol the premises, and counselors are on hand if teens need to talk.

The third or fourth week of the opening, the glory of God hit the place, and young people were prostrate on the floor before God," Smith says. "You never know what to expect in The Stable."

Vulgarity in music isn't necessary to get kids to like it, according to Eatmon, the teenager who wants to be a Christian rapper someday.

We can't continue to minister to them the same way we ministered to them 25 years ago," he said. "Young people's perception of church is, I come to church and listen to people. Young people can sit and listen. You have to have some fun."

Churches are always the last to come around," says Mar-

Hot Tracks

Top R&B/Hip-Hop Albums

- 1 Jagged Edge *J.E. Heartbreak* (Columbia)
- 2 Dr. Dre *Dr. Dre - 2001 Aftermath*
- 3 DMX *And Then There Was X* (Ruff Ryders/Def Jam)
- 4 Jay Z *Vol. 3... Life And Times of S. Carter* (Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam)
- 5 Next *Friday Soundtrack* (Priority)



6 Sino *Unleash the Dragon* (Def Soul/Def Jam)

7 2Pac + Outlawz *Still I Rise* (Amaru/Death Row)



8 Juvenile *The G Code* (Cash Money)

9 Angie Stone *Black Diamond* (Arista)

10 The Notorious B.I.G. *Born Again* (Bad Boy/Arista)

11 Destiny's Child *The Writing's On The Wall* (Columbia)



12 EVE *Let There Be Eve* (Ruff Ryders/Def Jam)

13 The Madd Rapper *Tell Em Why You Mad* (Crazy Cat/Columbia)

14 Mary J. Blige *Mary MCA*

15 Lil' Wayne *The Black Is Hot* (Cash Money)

16 Brian McKnight *Back At One* (Motown)

17 The Best Man *Soundtrack* (Columbia)

18 Juvenile *400 Degrees* (Cash Money)

19 Goodie Mob *World Party* (LaFace/Arista)

20 Any Given *Sunday Soundtrack* (Arista)



Time Warner, EMI to form top music company

By Seth Siegel

NEW YORK (AP) — Time Warner's mergers with America Online and EMI were hatched separately, but they both help advance a common goal: bringing music to the Internet.

Time Warner's chairman and CEO, Gerald Levin, has been seeking a common goal: bringing music to the Internet. The merger would be the first big winner from opportunities in promotion and distribution offered by the Internet.

He repeated that mantra Monday in announcing the merger between his company's Warner Music Group and EMI of Britain, which would create the world's largest music company with \$8 billion in annual revenues. Seagram's Universal Music Group had been No. 1 with \$5.3 billion.

"Music, out of all our businesses, is the one that will benefit most from the Internet and the digital revolution," Levin told a London news conference via satellite from New York.

To be sure, Time Warner's blockbuster merger with Internet leader AOL, announced just two weeks ago, is expected to be a far greater catalyst in bringing music and other elements from

Time Warner's media warehouse online. AOL's 22 million subscribers offer a giant market to be exploited.

The addition of EMI will create a massive stable of 2,300 artists and a large music catalog of albums and singles that can be delivered over the Internet or shipped via CD to consumers.

"It can only help accelerate a digital music push," said James Penhune, an analyst with Yankee Group. "It certainly isn't a cataclysmic event like the AOL merger, but it adds fuel to the fire."

Other analysts pointed to conventional rationales behind bringing Warner and EMI together, cutting costs by eliminating overlapping operations. The companies say the deal would save \$400 million a year by the end of three years. As part of that drive, 3,000 jobs are being

cut, or 13 percent of the company's combined work force of 23,000.

The deal doesn't solve one problem faced by both companies: a dearth of hot new music acts. Warner has a big stable of artists such as Cher, Eric Clapton, Phil Collins, Madonna, Metallica and REM, but its fortunes have been declining in recent years as its acts have grown older.

EMI boasts names like the Spice Girls, Van Morrison, the Beatles, Rolling Stones and Frank Sinatra, but it too has been slipping recently.

Unlike the AOL-Time Warner deal, which combined two fairly different companies, the Warner-EMI union could face tighter scrutiny from antitrust regulators since it reduces the number of major record companies from five to four.

EMI's combined work force of 23,000.

The board of the new company, which would be called Warner-EMI Music, will sell one every four CDs bought in the United States.

The back-to-back mergers come just as the music industry is coming to terms with the Internet. The major labels initially opposed distributing music digitally out of fear of piracy, but several have been experimenting with ways to distribute music securely.

Some analysts remain skeptical about the major studios' bet on digital distribution. These analysts say upstart competitors like RealNetworks have been moving more aggressively in bringing music to Internet users.

"I see very little evidence that either of these companies is willing to take risks in terms of experimenting with the packaging, promotion and sale of digital forms of entertainment to consumers," says Dan O'Brien, a media analyst with Forrester Research.

Billboard

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4

ENGLEWOOD - Internationally acclaimed Boys Choir of Harlem brings its enchanting repertoire to The John Harms State 8:00 p.m. as part of the Classical Series. For more information, call (201) 887-5707.

NEWARK - New Community Corporation presents "Wassail" at the Priory on St. Joseph Plaza 7:00 p.m. For more information call (973) 838-7848.

NEWARK - The New Jersey Performing Arts Center presents the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in concert with Conductor Daniele Gatti and pianist Ignat Solovchenko at 8 p.m. in the Prudential Theater. For more information call (888) GO-NJPAC.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5

NEWARK - New Jersey Performing Arts Center presents "Year of the Dragon" through February 6 at 2 p.m. in the Victoria Theater for ages 3 and up. For more information, call (973) 297-5834.

NEWARK - The Newark Public Library presents "Sensational Poets" in the Centennial Hall at 11 a.m. For more information call (973) 733-7735.

NEWARK - The New Jersey Historical Society Family Program presents "Landscape on the Pacific" in two sessions 1-2 p.m. and 2:30-3:30 p.m. For information call 506-9520.

NEWARK - New Jersey Performing Arts Center presents "Year of the Dragon" with Nal-Ni Chan Dance Company in the Victoria Theater at 2 p.m. Call (888) GO-NJPAC.

NEWARK - New Community Corporation offers "Gourmet Cooking" in the Priory at 7 p.m. Call 639-7848.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6

WAYNE - Saxophonist Joe Temperley and Trumpeter Randy Brocker are among all-star lineup to perform in the "Winter 2000 Jazz Hoop" at the William Paterson University. The series will run from February 6 through March 12. Call (973) 720-2371 for additional information.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7

MORRISTOWN - Pianist Rio Samentie will be performing at the Bickford Theatre in the Morris Museum. The performance will start at 8 p.m. Admission is \$10. For more information, call (973) 536-0454 for information.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8

NEWARK - The Sound of Music, starring Richard Chamberlain, comes to the New Jersey Performing Arts Center from February 8 through 13. The production will be held in the Prudential Hall. Call (888) GO-NJPAC for more information.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Brother Eric Ture Muhammad explores the origins of the slave trade of Africans in the State of New Jersey. Presentation starts at 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11

ELIZABETH - Ricky Joyce will be performing at the University of College. Concert starts at 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12

NEW BRUNSWICK - The State Theatre presents "Smiley Davis' Call" at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. For more information, call (877) STATE 11.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13

NEWARK - NJ Performing Arts Center's Bell Atlantic Family Time Series presents a special homecoming concert Newark's "The Cultural Renaissance" with Derek Lee Ragin and Pianist Kevin Sharpe at 2:00 p.m. in the Victoria Theater. For more information, call (973) 297-5834.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16

BROOKLYN - 65 Arts Theatre presents "Black Dance Tradition and Transformation". This production demonstrates 651's commitment to further Black Arts. Call (718) 639-4100 for additional information.

NEWARK - A salute to Broadway featuring favorite show tunes will be held 7:30 p.m. in the Prudential Hall, NJ Performing Arts Center (NJPAC).

BROOKLYN - 65 Arts presents a new all-star dance program which features the history, present and future of Black choreography at 8 p.m. at the BAM Harvey Theater through February 19th. For more information, call (718) 636-4187.

Black History Month, join the celebration! A Calender of Events

The Newark Museum has celebrated the history and achievements of Black Americans since its early days. In 1931, it was one of the first museums to mount an exhibition devoted solely to the work of African American artists. This year's celebration features a series of public programs on the theme of "Homage to Our African American Ancestors," which includes drop-in workshops, lectures and family events.

February 3

After hours Literary Night: Performing poet Charlie Mosier, accompanied by blues guitarist Johnny Charles presents "Dancing Words," 6 p.m.

February 5-6

Workshop: African American Artists Series takes a closer look at Chihuri (1988) by Melvin Edwards 1-3 p.m. Ulysses Grant Dietz, Curator of Decorative Arts, discusses the unusual talents of an African American ceramic artist featured in the Forgotten Hand: China Painters in America 2 p.m. Performance: North Jersey Philharmonic Glee Club performs traditional Negro music, 2:30 p.m.

February 10

After Hours Jazz: The Omega Jazz Band, featuring Oscar Pettiford, 5:30 p.m.

February 12

Dance Performance: Forces of Nature captures the sounds and rhythms of the African Diaspora, 2:00 p.m.

8:500.

February 5-28

The Black United Fund of NJ presents "Afro Tots and Other Assorted Flavors," a photo project developed by the African American Professional Photographers Network in association with the Boys & Girls Clubs, Inc. of Newark. An exhibition of color photographs taken by the members of the Boys and Girls Clubs. The reception on Feb. 5 will be held from 3-5 p.m. "The Rules of Wealth" (P&B 7.14, 21, 28) from 7:30 to 9:30 will be a series of workshops designed to help you take control of your money. This is an education about one of the most important subjects in life, money! It can improve your marriage, increase your confidence and enhance your outlook on the future. Presentation will be



"Two Dancers" now showing at Art in the Atrium in Morristown

will be Ivol Alleyne, Certified Estate Planner.

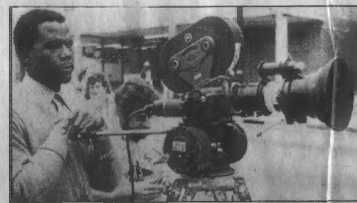
The B.U.F. is located at 132 S. Harrison Street, East Orange, for additional information call (973) 676-5283.

February 1 - March 24

Art in the Atrium, at the Atrium Gallery, Court Street Morristown, located in the Administration and Records Building, will present renowned artist and Plamfield resident Alonzo Adams as one of its 40 featured artist in the "Cultural Ribbons" collection now on display. Adams, whose real-life approach to art has captivated such avid art collectors as Bill Cosby, Dr. Maya Angelou, presidential candidate Bill Bradley, Rev. Jesse Jackson, NBA player Alonzo Mourning, actress Jasmine Guy and a host of others. "Cultural Ribbons" is a compilation of over 100 works by emerging and established contemporary African American artists from throughout America. For additional information call (973) 386-8825.

February 4-6

The Opus Dance Theatre Company will present a "Black History Dance Celebration" a full concert performance glorifying African American History and culture. The concert will consist of jazz fusion, traditional African dance, and feature a dramatic presentation of a conversation between Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X entitled "The Meeting." All performances will be held at the Riverside Church Theatre, at 91 Glenmont Ave. (between 120 and 122 Streets in Manhattan) will start at 7 p.m. on Fri., 7:30 Sat., and 3 p.m. on Sunday. Admission is \$15.



Academy Award winning actor (the only black actor to win the leading actor category), acclaimed writer and director, humanitarian, ordained Knight, and diplomat Sidney Poitier will be the focus of Thirteen WHET New York's "American Masters" series, in which the show will explore the public and private life of this 20th century Renaissance man. The show will premiere nationally Wednesday, February 2 at 8 p.m. (EST) on PBS. Check local listings.

Actor Denzel Washington gets Golden Globe

LOS ANGELES (AP) — When Denzel Washington won the Golden Globe for best dramatic film actor Sunday night, he took the wrongly convicted boxer he portrayed in "The Hurricane" up on stage and said: "He's all love."

The film chronicled the 19 years Rubin "Hurricane" Carter spent in prison for three murders in 1966 he didn't commit.

"When we made this film, I really began to understand what 'God is love' means. This man right here is love, he's all love. He lost about 7,800 days of his life, and he's love, he's all love," Washington said.

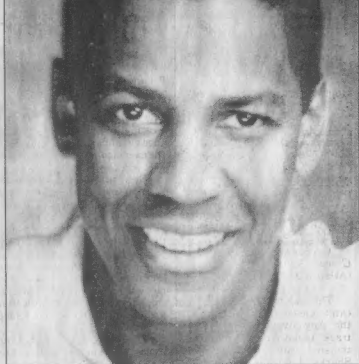
The acceptance speech followed Carter's appearance earlier in the ceremony when he presented a film clip of "The Hurricane," receiving a standing ovation.

"I only have 27 seconds. And you know I can't open my mouth in 27 seconds," Carter said. "But I am indeed honored that a film about the story of my life has been nominated for a Golden Globe award."

Carter, who now works as an advocate for prisoners who believe they are innocent, emphasized that he's still enjoying an "ongoing life."

"Notice that," he said. "A life in progress."

The movie was criticized for liberties the filmmakers took with facts, including the suggestion that members of a Canadian commune were solely responsible for overturning Carter's conviction by discovering evidence that was suppressed.



Denzel Washington

Carter himself pointed out the discrepancy, crediting his lawyers for much of the work that set him free.

But on Sunday, Carter only praised the film, telling theaudience he was "proud and pleased" to share the clip.

"Norman," he told director Norman Jewison, "your direction captures the very essence of humanity, the ability to grow beyond our feeble preoccupations and go beyond our weak and selfish lives."

1999-2000 SEASON

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Victoria Theater • Tickets: Adult \$18, Child \$9

BILL T. JONES

in The Breathing Show
Solo Performance

FRI FEB 18 at 7:30; SAT FEB 19 at 7:30;
SUN FEB 20 at 2:30

One of the most charismatic dancer/choreographers of our time, the creator of visionary works such as *Still/Here*, makes his NJPAC debut in a rare solo performance. "Bill T. Jones continually redefines our expectations," says *The Village Voice* of this one-of-a-kind artist.

Victoria Theater • Tickets \$36

SIMENTERA DE CABO VERDE and MONO BLANCO

SAT MAR 18 at 7:30

Simentera, an ensemble that combines the sounds of Portugal, Brazil and Africa, has been dubbed "The other side of Cape Verdean music." Mono Blanco is the leading proponent of the son-jarico, the traditional music and dance of rural Southern Mozambique, which the group combines with African, Mexican and Spanish influences. Be there for an evening of energetic, interactive music from these two internationally renowned groups.

Victoria Theater • Tickets \$25

AWADAGIN PRATT, PIANO

SUN APR 16 at 8:00

Known for his distinctive visual style, superb command of the keyboard and inspired interpretations, the electrifying Awadagin Pratt brings his classical brilliance to NJPAC for a very special solo recital. Program includes Bach's Chromatic Fantasy and Fugue in D minor, Beethoven's Sonata No. 31 plus works by Glazounov and Liszt.

Prudential Hall • Tickets \$46, \$40, \$33, \$24, \$17, \$10

ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER

FRI MAY 12 at 8:00; SAT MAY 13 at 2:00 & 8:00;
SUN MAY 14 at 3:00

Led by Artistic Director Judith Jamison, America's premier modern dance company and NJPAC's principal resident affiliate, returns with a program that includes Ailey's Revelations and other classic works. "The Rolls Royce of American dance," raves *The Los Angeles Times*.

Prudential Hall • Tickets \$64, \$50, \$46, \$38, \$24, \$15

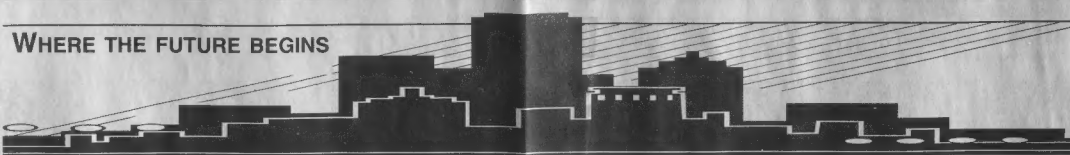
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HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NEWARK

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INVITATION FOR BIDS FOR

ENVIRONMENTAL ABATEMENT AND DEMOLITION OF THE 21 STORY BILL MANOR APARTMENT BUILDING AND ONE STORY RETAIL STORE BUILDING AT 811 MARTIN LUTHER KING BLVD.

IFB NO. 00-0151

The HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NEWARK will receive sealed bids, from a GENERAL CONTRACTOR to perform ENVIRONMENTAL ABATEMENT AND DEMOLITION OF THE 21 STORY BILL MANOR APARTMENT BUILDING AND ONE STORY RETAIL STORE BUILDING AT 811 MARTIN LUTHER KING BLVD., on Thursday, March 8, 2000 at 10:00 a.m. at 500 Broad Street, 5th Floor Conference Room, Newark, New Jersey, at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

A pre-bid conference and walk-thru will be held on Thursday, February 17, 2000 at 10:00 a.m. at 500 Broad Street, Basement Conference Room, Newark, New Jersey.

Bid forms and contract documents, including specifications are on file at the office of the HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, CONTRACTS DIVISION, at 500 Broad Street, 5th Floor, Newark, New Jersey, 973-675-8235. Bid forms and contract documents can be obtained upon payment of a \$50.00 non-refundable fee paid by MONEY ORDER OR CASHIER'S CHECK.

All bids must be accompanied by a negotiable bid guarantee payable to the HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NEWARK. The bid guarantee may be a certified check, bank draft, U.S. Government Bonds at par value or a satisfactory bond secured by a surety company acceptable to the U.S. Government and authorized to do business in the State of New Jersey. The guarantee shall be in an amount of five percent (5%) of the bid amount. BID BOND MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A CONSENT OF SURETY. FAILURE TO SUBMIT A BID GUARANTEE WITH THE BID SHALL RESULT IN THE REJECTION OF THE BID.

The successful bidder will be required to furnish and pay for a satisfactory Performance and Payment Bonds in the amount of 100% of the contract as awarded. The surety company for all bonds must be a company or company completely acceptable to the U.S. Department of Treasury. Individual sureties will not be considered. The surety company must be licensed to do business in the State of New Jersey, U.S. Treasury Circular No. 590 published annually in the Federal Register, lists companies approved to act as surety on bonds securing government contracts, the maximum underwriting limits on each contract bonded, and the States in which each company is licensed to do business.

Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975-1, 127-48 (Public Law 94-143).

Bids shall be submitted to: Hon. Roxy D. Holmes, Grant, Acting Contracting Officer, Newark Housing Authority, 500 Broad Street, 5th Floor, Newark, New Jersey 07102. Bids shall be clearly marked for: ENVIRONMENTAL ABATEMENT AND DEMOLITION OF THE 21 STORY BILL MANOR APARTMENT BUILDING AND ONE STORY RETAIL STORE BUILDING AT 811 MARTIN LUTHER KING BLVD. Bid No. 00-0151.

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY - CITY OF NEWARK reserves the right to reject any/all bids or to waive any information in the bidding as well as reserves the right to reject all bids in the event that less than two (2) bids are received at the designated time of the bid opening.

No bid shall be withdrawn for period of sixty (60) days subsequent to the opening of the bids without the consent of the HOUSING AUTHORITY CITY OF NEWARK.

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NEWARK

ROBERT JAHAM, ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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1999-2000 ANNUAL SCHEDULE OF ADVISORY BOARD MEETINGS

Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act of 1975, N.J.A.C. 10-4.8 et. seq., popularly known as the "Sunshine Law," the Newark Public Schools wishes to announce the following:

This is to advise that for the remainder of the 1999-2000 School Year, the LOCATIONS of the Newark Public School District Advisory Board Meetings have been changed to school sites, as noted below.

Pursuant to the District's "Procedure for Public Participation," requests to speak must be provided in writing to the State District Superintendent, Newark Public School, 2 Cedar Street, Newark, New Jersey 07102 by 4:00 p.m. five (5) calendar days prior to the meeting.

This schedule of meetings is subject to change, but notification will be provided to the public in accordance with statute.

DATE	TIME	MEETING	LOCATION
February 22, 2000	9:00 P.M.	Public Participation	George Washington Carver School, 333 Cedar Place, Newark, New Jersey
March 28, 2000	6:00 P.M.	Public Participation	Cedar Street School, 104 Cedar Street, Newark, New Jersey
April 25, 2000	6:00 P.M.	Public Participation	M. Vernon School, 142 M. Vernon Street, Newark, New Jersey
May 23, 2000	6:00 P.M.	Public Participation	Rafael Hernandez School, 345 Broadway, Newark, New Jersey
June 27, 2000	6:00 P.M.	Public Participation	Beverly High School, 80 Pastern Street, Newark, New Jersey

The Tentative Agenda shall be:

- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Flag Salute
- Public Participation
- Report of the State District Superintendent
- Report of the Advisory Board Chairperson
- Old/New Business
- Adjournment

FORMAL ACTION WILL BE TAKEN AT THESE MEETINGS.

Marian A. Bolden

State District Superintendent

00217

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES DIVISION OF YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES Notice of Availability of Funds - Residential Treatment

New Jersey Department of Human Services, Division of Youth and Family Services - Residential Treatment Placement/Treatment

Take notice that the Division of Youth and Family Services will be publishing on or about February 7, 2000 in the New Jersey Register, Copies of the request for proposals may be obtained by attending the mandatory bidder's conference scheduled for February 17, 2000 at 10:00 A.M., Room 358, Capital Center, 50 East State Street, Trenton, New Jersey or by contacting Michele Schaefer at (609) 633-8994.

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FROM QUALIFIED DEVELOPERS

MARYLAND HOMES PROJECT ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY

The Coastal Reinvestment Development Authority (CRDA) is seeking proposals from Qualified Developers for pre-construction, construction, marketing and U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development required Hope VI activities (to be determined) associated with the development of a residential project containing approximately fifteen to seventeen (15-17) units to be constructed generally near Maryland Avenue, between Arctic, Bait and Delaware Avenues, on Block Nos. 311 and 312.

Experience, financial strength, quality and depth of personnel. In order to design the project, and the specific project concept proposal are determined factors in the selection of the Qualified Developer. If awarded a contract

that, your company/firm will be required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975, c. 127 (N.J.A.C. 17:27) (Law Against Discrimination in Public Contracts).

Copies of the Request For Proposals will be available from the CRDA offices beginning Friday, January 28, 2000. Responses are required to attend a mandatory pre-submission meeting to be held on Thursday, February 3, 2000 at 2:00 p.m. at the office of the CRDA, 1014 Atlantic Avenue, Atlantic City, NJ 08401 (between Pennsylvania and Virginia Avenues). The mandatory pre-submission conference will begin promptly. No one will be admitted after the meeting commences. Submissions will not be accepted from firms which do not have a representative in attendance at the mandatory pre-submission conference.

Proposals must be received by the CRDA by 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 23, 2000. No faxed proposals will be accepted.

Questions are to be directed to:

Adrienne C. Hamilton
Project Consultant to the
Coastal Reinvestment Development Authority
1014 Atlantic Avenue
Atlantic City, NJ 08401
Tel: (609) 347-9342
Fax: (609) 347-1190

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The Arc of Union County is looking for direct providing services to individuals with developmental disabilities currently has openings for Direct Care Staff and Drivers.

CHANCE TO GROW: Full & Part Time positions include evening and weekend shifts. Positions are available for individuals with experience and training in direct care services and driving for residents in daily living skills. Previous experience working with adults with developmental disabilities preferred.

Details: Part time positions available - 5 days, Mon-Fri, 20 hours a week. Morning run 7:30-9:30 A.M., afternoon run 2:30-4:30 P.M. Responsible for the safe transportation of adults with developmental disabilities to and from work sites.

All positions require valid NJ driver's license & good driving record.

Send resume or apply at:
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Human Resources
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Parsippany, NJ 07054
Ext 4100N/1544417

Editorial Assistant

Newark, NJ - Must possess good writing & editing skills. Must be proficient in Quark Express, Photoshop & Illustrator. Must be able to clean copy, scan text & photos, photograph & illustrate. Must have excellent organizational skills and have a solid work history. Reference required.

Salary: Commensurate with skills. Mail or fax your resume to: City News Publishing Co., 111 Mulberry St., Suite 1F, Newark, NJ 07102. Fax: 973-642-5444

City News

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All positions require valid NJ driver's license & good driving record.

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ADVERTISE IN CITY NEWS

Ponder This...

By Greg Moore

I'm sorry but John Rocker, can't upset me

Loudmouthed Atlanta Braves Pitcher John Rocker ignited a national imbroglio when his xenophobic and racist comments about New York City, homosexuals, foreigners and various minority groups were revealed in a recent issue of Sports Illustrated. Judging from his remarks, Rocker is not only "off his rocker," but pretty obtuse too. You would think that at some point during the course of his racist diatribe that a thought would cross his mind (a fairly short trip) regarding the ethnic make-up of his team, and an appreciation of the fact that his boss, Braves' Vice-President Henry Aaron, is not only African-American, but was forced to weather similar racist sentiments during his pursuit of Babe Ruth's home run record.

In subsequent interviews, Rocker made a feeble attempt to appear contrite, but his apologies ring hollow. I for one am sorry. I'm sorry that Rocker's headbashed statements received such an enormous amount of national media attention. Rocker's thoughts were not only splashed all over every sports page in America, but talk radio and television pundits were also consumed with the story. Rocker's remarks were even referenced during a recent presidential debate. Why am I sorry? I can assure you that my sorrow does not stem from any sympathetic feelings toward John Rocker. I had my say, Rocker would be exiled to the same lonely island that Pete Rose now inhabits. Rather, I'm sorry because Rocker's racism sparked such a superficial dialogue which never really delved into the more serious and systemic manifestations of racism in the sports world.

John Rocker's remarks don't anger me because I'm still sorry that the Green Bay Packers fired Ray Rhodes and his two black assistants after only one winning season.

John Rocker's remarks don't anger me because I'm still sorry that after several years of failing under former Knicks GM Ernie Grunfeld, Ed Tapscott, his assistant, got passed over for the Knicks GM position in favor of some guy from Utah with horned rimmed glasses.

John Rocker's remarks don't anger me because I'm still sorry that despite their disproportionate athletic participation levels in major college football, blacks still lag far behind whites in their ability to secure head coaching positions.

John Rocker's remarks don't anger me because I'm still sorry that according to the National Association of Black Coaches, black folks hold less than five athletic directorships at the largest universities in America.

John Rocker's remarks don't anger me because I'm still sorry that black athletes are still referred to as "gifted," "talented," and "well-spoken" while white athletes are characterized as "hardworking," "over-achieving," and "intelligent."

Until the issues of racism in sports is explored in a more substantive fashion, I can't get worked up about racist remarks made by some guy in Georgia.

Adversity for athletes is best offense

By Kelly Foster

Like his teammate Melvin Hubert, Gary Gaines, wide receiver for the championship football team of Flemington Hunterdon Central Regional High School, is one of the few African American boys on this team. Gaines states he's always felt welcome. He stresses that everyone is supportive of each other and get along well.

"Color hasn't been a factor. They have accepted me and I accepted them. It's been cool," he says assuringly.

Sadly, Gaines' father never got the chance to witness his son's thriving football career. His father passed away when Gaines was in the fifth grade.

"She taught me that athletics are good, but school comes first. If you do good in school and in athletics, you can get a reward, namely a scholarship to school," he says.

Gaines understands the importance of performing well, both academically and athletically, though sometimes there's nowhere he'd rather be than on the field.

Jared Mazzetta's father is confined to a wheelchair. He has rheumatoid arthritis throughout his body.

"One year he was perfectly normal, big and strong, and the next year he lost 50-60 pounds and was skinny as hell. He was walking with a cane. It was really weird." The elder Mazzetta has been in the hospital frequently and his health has continued to deteriorate.

Describing his father as a "control freak," Mazzetta says his father gets angry at him for helping him. "It makes him mad." However, he understands when his father yells at him for helping.

"Even though he's down, he still tries to be at my games. He doesn't give up easily. He might give up but the next second he's right back at it because he's frustrated that he gave up."

That's the attitude the tight end adopts. Mazzetta bounces back and keeps on going.



Top to bottom Jared Mazzetta, Andrew Conforti and Gary Gaines

NFL says no to Jackson's Superbowl protest



Rev. Jesse L. Jackson Sr.

ATLANTA (AP) — The Rev. Jesse Jackson called on the players in last week's Super Bowl to wear the American flag on their helmets to protest the Confederate battle flag contained within Georgia's state banner.

"As we approach the Super Bowl game, we're in the awkward and disgraceful position of playing the Super Bowl game, the most watched event in America — under the Confederate flag," Jackson said Monday in a telephone interview from Chicago, the headquarters of his Rainbow/PUSH Coalition.

The National Football League will not allow

players to alter their uniforms during Sunday's game in Atlanta's Georgia Dome.

"While we understand the concerns raised by this issue, we are not a political advocacy group," NFL spokesman Joe Brown said. "We are a football league in Atlanta to play our championship game, and our rules prohibit the wearing of any item on game day related to political causes or activities."

The Confederate flag symbolizes slavery and racial supremacy to many blacks and other minorities. Georgia's flag bears the state seal on the left and a representation of the Confederate battle flag on the

right.

Jackson said his organization does not plan to boycott the event, but hopes that players for the St. Louis Rams and the Tennessee Titans will show their distaste for the flag by altering their uniforms.

"We're not calling a boycott of the game. We're calling for the flag to come down," he said.

Numerous organizations are observing a boycott of South Carolina's protest of the Confederate flag flying over that state's Capitol.

Jackson said he would lead protests against the flag in the Georgia capital Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Sports Shorts



NU PANTHERS SEEK 11-14 YEAR OLD PLAYERS

The New Jersey Panthers Travel Baseball club team is now looking for coaches and players ages 11, 12, 13, and 14. To play Sunday double-headers and to play in tournaments. They will also participate in the Cooperstown, N.Y. tournaments. If interested please contact Kim at (732) 324-8339.

BRAVES BASEBALL SEEK 12-16 YEAR OLD

The Braves Baseball Club is now seeking players and Coaches for several competitive teams in all NJ counties. We play a competitive schedule. We have roster openings on the following Age teams: 12, 13, 14, 15, & 16. For more information call 908. 231-6947.

GS YANKEES TO HOLD TRYOUTS

The Garden State Yankee's Baseball team is now holding tryouts to fill spots on its rosters for the summer and fall. Players must be 17 and older. The age is unlimited. The spots are filled by tryouts. The team will play a competitive week ball schedule and play at Double-Day field in Cooperstown, NY. "A Celebration of Our Children, Our Communities."

MUSTANGS BASEBALL TO HOLD TRYOUTS

The new Mustangs competitive baseball team is now holding tryouts for competitive spring, summer, and fall wood bat national tournaments. This club prefers players with college and former professional experience. We need coaches too! Please call John (908) 231-6919.

Olympic basketball team not exactly a dreamy one

By Martin C. Summers

The Dream Team headlined by Michael Jordan, Magic Johnson and Larry Bird was sent to the 1992 Olympic Games in Barcelona to restore American pride after our college boys didn't capture the gold medal in 1988.

And we have continued to make a point to commit our best to school the globe and maintain basketball supremacy.

But the roster assembled for the 2000 Sydney Games was recently finalized and if that is our best, then that must depend on what your definition of best is.

Charles Barkley, who played on the Dream Team against his vicious enemy to an Angolan opponent by "joking" that he suspected that his African brother might be throwing spurs. But the next edition assembled in 1994, Dream Team II, while playing in another international competition, was unfairly criticized for doing much less. The players, such as Derrick Coleman, Larry Johnson, and Shawn Kemp were guilty of hanging on rims and "hot dogging" it. But the powers that be, USA Basketball, an assortment of many knowledgeable basketball folk and a few too many fuddy duddy types replaced many of those stars for more "respectable" players for the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta.

And that trend seems to have continued as the current team is filled with several questionable choices.

I agree with the selections of Kevin Garnett, Gary Payton, Tim Duncan, Jason Kidd, and Allan Houston (but only as a result of his 1999 playoff performance).

Grant Hill initially passed when the team was put together for a qualifying tournament last summer — alas Ralph Tresvant who crowned in that New Edition hit "Count Me Out" — so that he could marry singer Tamia. But now since he is down to play down under, he deserves to be there as well. Shaquille O'Neal, like Hill, also originally declined (unsure whether it was to cut a CD or make a movie) but has again rejected the offer to play, saying that he wanted to spend this off-season with his young daughter. In lieu of Shaq, Alonzo

zo Mourning was the obvious choice as he has been wrecked down in Miami the past several seasons with "by any means necessary" defense. Ray Allen of the Milwaukee Bucks was also added at the same time, which I have little to quarrel about.

But the selections of Vin Baker, Tom Gugliotta, Tim Hardaway, and Steve Smith has me scratching my head. Oh at one point in time, I loved these players game, but none of them have it anymore.

Baker's second-rate since he was exposed in Seattle's playoff run in '98 and has been inconsistent since.

Googs must be the safe Caucasian pick as his game has deserted him since he went to the desert in Phoenix as a Sun and recently almost died taking diet supplements to revive his game.

Hardaway's killer crossover is dead through age and injury. Similarly, Smitty after covering the Atlanta Hawks for years as a third or fourth option out in Portland.

Hopefully, those four will bow out gracefully to make room for some of the following: Allen Iverson, Vince Carter, Chris Webber, Kobe Bryant, Eddie Jones, Stephen Marbury, Jason Williams, Keith Van Horn, or Antonio McDyess.



Stephen Marbury

We're in a New-ark state of mind

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